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Tom Howley

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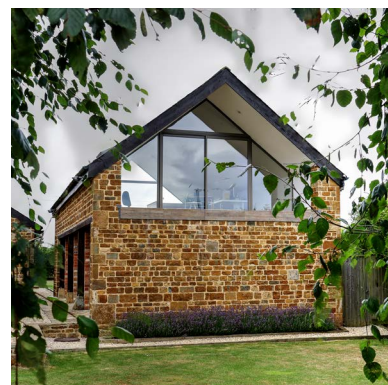
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REEVES KITCHEN RENOVATION

The Hartford Collection from Tom Howley

We were approached by a family who'd taken on the challenge of renovating a Grade II listed barn in Little Baddow, Essex. They wanted a kitchen that could be a hub for the family; stylish, with state-of-the-art appliances yet with a traditional character that would reflect the period of their property. The couple envisioned an open plan kitchen design with room for large scale dining and a living area for relaxation.

The couple met our Brentwood-based designer Tamsin Reed and selected our Hartford kitchen collection, which is a contemporary twist on traditional Shaker styling. Authentic Shaker style kitchens put an emphasis on home life with solid, comfortable furniture designed to bring people together, which was exactly what the couple were looking for.

The reasons behind the choices of cabinetry and work surfaces ...

The cabinetry, hand-painted in a soft, heritage grey style, was meticulously made-to-measure for their unique space and each piece commissioned in accordance to their personal storage needs. The kitchen's sleek pull-out units tuck away everyday items, keeping them discreetly to hand while maximising living space.



The couple selected a stunning Silestone quartz worktop and backsplash in Lyra. This coordinated beautifully with neutral limestone flooring, the statement island painted in Dewberry and cabinetry in our timeless colour Thistle.

Restrictions or limitations that had to be worked around...

The barn's layout definitely has the 'wow' factor with an exposed brick wall, chimney breast, extra-height windows and mezzanine walkways floating above that add considerably to the kitchen's open feel. Having a small-scale kitchen wasn't going to be an option, so it was essential to ensure that everything inside the room was symmetrical and in proportion. Symmetry and balance is also a tenet of Shaker design, so this level of consideration chimed well with the kitchen style selected.

The chimney provided the central focus, and we increased the height of it so that it was higher than the wall units on either side, which celebrated the double-height nature of the room.

Design elements that make the scheme so successful?

A good flow of light is essential in an open plan kitchen, so instead of closing in the space with too many wall units, we created a window seat that doubles as useful storage. The window seat is finished in the same muted grey, Thistle, drawing attention to the stunning feature window. Architectural features such as this window can't be moved or concealed, and you wouldn't want to do that either, but instead of seeing it as a challenge, we saw an opportunity to celebrate a unique element and to create something special and exclusive to that property

■ 0845 646 0690,
www.tomhowley.co.uk,
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A good flow of light is essential in an open plan kitchen, so instead of closing in the space with too many wall units, we created a window seat that doubles as useful storage.



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Before



During



After



After

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GOING FOR GOLD WITH 220 LIFTS

When the finishing touches were needed for one of London's most exclusive residential blocks, it was clear that only a touch of gold would do.

The 200m high, 58-storey Newfoundland apartment building, at the forefront of Canary Wharf, is the latest addition to the capital's skyline, heralding the area's pivot away from commercial premises to the residential market.

With one, two and three-bedroomed apartments for rent, it offers residents uninterrupted views over Canary Wharf and Docklands to the east, or the City

and the rest of the capital to the west.

Tenants can enjoy a terrace, fully-equipped gym, lounge, self-service bar, private dining room, screening room and children's play area, alongside all the benefits of living in the vibrant city.

With prices starting at £1,928, a certain level of finish throughout the building is expected, and the lifts are no exception.

Commercial decorating contractor E Poole was looking to create a subtle gold effect on each of the 220 lifts, covering 55 floors, in keeping with the complex's luxurious feel.

It was agreed in advance to wrap the lifts with vinyl, an easy-to-use, time-efficient option to create the desired effect with the minimum of fuss.

After a demo installation, the work was awarded to Omnia Vinyl Ltd, a Swindon-based company specialising in lift car, lift landing refurbishments and advertising.

With four passenger lifts on each of the 55 residential floors of the Newfoundland, that meant four entrances, four indicators and two full height call button panels required wrapping on each level, using 1,536m of 3M DI-NOC.

And as if the scale of the project wasn't enough, the client had an unmoveable deadline; all work needed to be completed in just 35 days.

Gareth Watkinson, of Omnia Vinyl, said: "The client had already chosen PA-046 from the 3M DI-NOC Architectural Finishes range, and so we were asked to carry out a demo installation wrap on site.

"Following the high-quality completion of our trial installation, we were delighted to be chosen as the company to take this lift wrap project forward."

Given the size and scale of the project, Gareth and the team decided to break the installation down into three phases.

Phase one involved all surfaces that required no interaction with the lifts themselves, such as architraves, indicators and landing operating panels.

Phase two focused on the lift entrance frames, wrapping two lifts at a time, while phase three involved the wrapping of the lift doors, with technicians working on two at a time while the cars were being controlled by onsite OTIS engineers.

The first two phases were started simultaneously, with a completion target of 15 days, which was met, thus keeping



With up to 1,000 finishes to choose from, we knew that the client was unquestionably going to find what they were looking for with DI-NOC.



phase three on track, for which a 20-day target was set.

Gareth added: "In the end, we completed the door wrapping in 18 days, all while working with the OTIS engineers to ensure their own programme of testing and commissioning ran to schedule.

"This meant the whole lift wrap project from start to finish was delivered two days ahead of the agreed 35-day accelerated programme, which speaks volumes about the product used."

This project used 3M DI-NOC architectural film, supplied by Architextural, part of the William Smith Group 1832, a leading supplier of self-adhesive films.

Jack Carr, marketing executive at the Barnard Castle-based firm, said: "In this application, the product really has delivered from a number of different angles.

"Firstly, it came up trumps in the trial install of this project; not only was it performed well by the skilled installers, but the quality of the film was also impressive enough to be chosen to be used in such a high-end location.

"The design capabilities of this product also really came to the fore. With up to

1,000 finishes to choose from, we knew that the client was unquestionably going to find what they were looking for with DI-NOC. We were right, and pattern PA-046 fit the client's design needs perfectly.

"Finally, we can't forget about the speed of installation. The flexibility and ease of application allowed for the team at Omnia Vinyl to complete this staggering install inside 35 days."

The project was a runaway success, with the building opening for residents earlier this year.

A representative from E Poole commercial decorators added: "Many thanks go to Omnia Vinyl Ltd, who provided a superb quality finish and a great team to work with on this stunning project."

The Newfoundland building, also known as the Diamond building thanks to its distinctive criss-cross cladding, officially opened in May 2021.

It was designed by architects Horden Cherry Lee and WSP structural engineers and is the tallest private rental building in the UK.

■ www.architextural.co.uk
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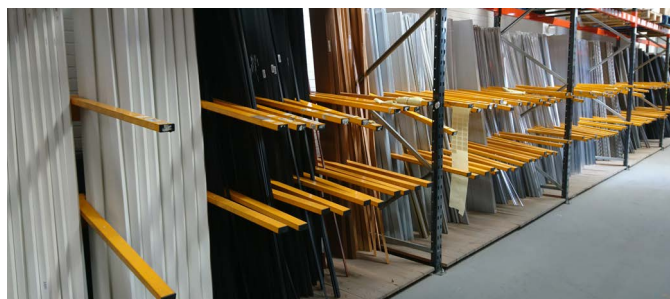
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Bull Products protects iconic Manchester Town Hall during refurbishment project

Bull Products, a manufacturer of life-saving fire protection equipment, has installed its Cygnus 1 Wireless Alarm System to protect the scaffolding and renovations at Manchester Town Hall. The Grade 1, listed, heritage building is currently undergoing a four-year refurbishment project.



Built in 1877, the neo gothic town hall sits in the heart of Manchester city centre. A much loved and significant landmark, the town hall has been used for many purposes over the years including council business and events. The refurbishment began to ensure this heritage building was fit for purpose in the 21st Century.

Due to its city centre location, scaffolding made the town hall an easy target for intruders, and contractor WysePower required an alarm system that would provide peace of mind and protection during the works and out of hours. The Cygnus Wireless Alarm System incorporates Scaff Alarm – a unique intruder detection system designed to deter attempted break-ins or access to higher levels of scaffolding.

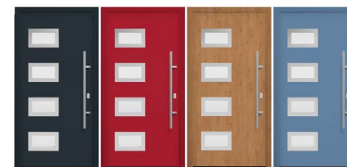
The Cygnus Wireless Alarm System connects up to 31 PIR detection devices each with a 110-decibel sounder, beacon alarm, and these are linked on a fully wireless mesh that communicates back to a control panel. An auto dialler alerts the site's security guard to any intruders overnight whilst during the day it provides protection, raising the alarm and alerting site workers to any fires inside the building.

131 Cygnus Wireless Alarm Systems have so far been installed across the site. An additional 76 are due to be installed in the Town Hall's temporary roof covering whilst repair works are carried out on the original roof, providing a complete external fire and intruder alarm system on site.

www.bullproducts.co.uk

Garador introduces new fgs 820 front door

Garador's FrontGuard front door range offers excellent security and thermal insulation, offering a great solution for all types of properties. Now Garador has added a new model to its extensive collection of front doors, in the form of the FrontGuard FGS 820.



Neil Discombe, says: "These exceptional doors will go a long way to helping home owners fulfil the latest requirements in energy saving and reducing heat loss while ensuring a light and fresh entrance area to the property."

This new door model is designed to minimise heat loss and incorporates four large windows to allow natural light to flow in through the doorway, which is ideal for hallways that are deprived of natural light. The windows are all triple glazed with high quality, sand-blasted float safety glass and the door leaf is 65mm thick, filled with dense polyurethane insulating foam. The door frame and seals have also been specifically designed to eliminate thermal bridges.

The FGS 820, along with all Garador's front doors, also offers high levels of security, with 5-point locking and RC2 security equipment. The door is available in 26 different colour finishes and has many shades designed to complement Garador's existing garage door range. It is also available with a number of options including transom lights, a spy hole and an electric strike plate with key catch for keyless access.

This FGS 820 also comes in a selection of standard and custom door sizes up to 2250mm high and delivers u-values down to 0.95 W/m²k. These front doors offer serious protection against the elements for every type of property.

Find out more about Garador's complete range of front entrance doors at www.garador.co.uk or call 01935 443722.

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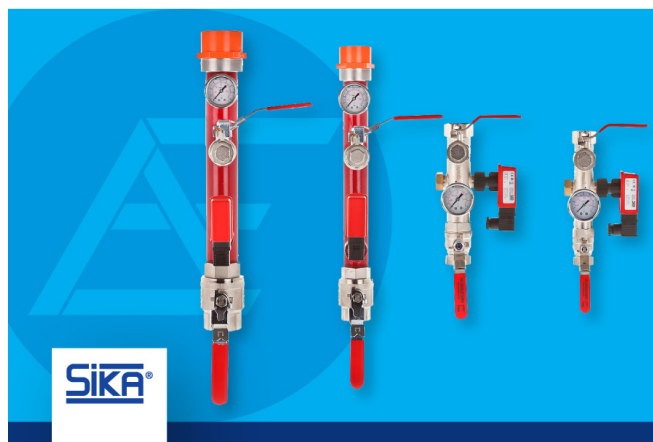


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Enhancing a Split-Level

DESK architectes designed the complete interior renovation of this split-level in Vieux-Longueuil as an opportunity to enhance the architectural quality of a typical suburbs residence.

In context

Located on the edge of Vieux-Longueuil, this typical 80s split-level had remained virtually unchanged since its construction. This residence deserved a makeover to properly accommodate its new occupants; a couple of young Montrealers wishing to enjoy the qualities of an isolated suburban house while remaining close to the Montreal business center.





The mandate

The mandate was to design the complete interior renovation of the building. The kitchen, bathroom, and master bedroom had to be completely reshaped. It was necessary not only to replace all the interior finishes but also to create a significant new aesthetic by magnifying the intrinsic qualities of the building and by optimizing the functional relationship between rooms.

The project

The architectural concept takes advantage of the typical characteristics of a split-level ground floor. The living room of these buildings is generally a long open space, lacking in a spatial hierarchy. The concept, therefore, proposes to organize the space, without partitioning it, by adding metal claustra and blocks of built-in furniture. Thus, these dark elements are oriented so as to emphasize the link from the front to the back of the room. They frame the views and traffic from the entrance to the terrace without obstructing them.

The staircase linking the living room to the kitchen served as an opportunity to create, on the living room side, an



architectural bench made of white oak in continuity with the steps of the stairs. On the dining room side, a short drywall act as a railing that hides the table from the living room while keeping the visual relationship between the two levels.

The kitchen, formerly organized in a "U" shape, has been completely reconfigured. Two large blocks of integrated built-in now face each other to frame a vast functional island. The new configuration of the kitchen provides more storage spaces and freed up the rear wall to allow wider openings to the backyard.

The bathroom has been reconfigured to create two distinct areas; the light zone combines the vanity, the medicine cabinet, and the bath while the dark



zone combines the toilet and an Italian shower.

The Renovation C+G is a rehabilitation exercise of a typical suburban split-level. It reveals the potential hiding in older houses in a real estate market where new constructions are often preferred.

Data sheet

Project: residential renovation
 Client: Private
 Location: Longueuil, Quebec, Canada
 Budget: \$ 180,000
 Number of levels: 2
 Area: 2,010 ft² (187 m²)
 Architects: DESK architectes
 Project managers: Etienne Duclos & Kévin Sylvain
 General contractor: Projets H.E.T.A.
 Cabinetmaker: Ébénisterie ALD
 Flooring: Unik Parquet
 Photographer: Maxime Brouillet
 Chronology: Design 2019 / Construction 2019-2020 / Completed 2020



The new configuration of the kitchen provides more storage spaces and freed up the rear wall to allow wider openings to the backyard.

■ www.deskarchitectes.com

Mapei adds to its surface membranes range with rapid drying Mapeproof Primer

Mapeproof Primer is the latest addition to Mapei's range of surface membranes, with the added bonuses of being single component, water-based and moisture suppressing, with very low emission of VOC.

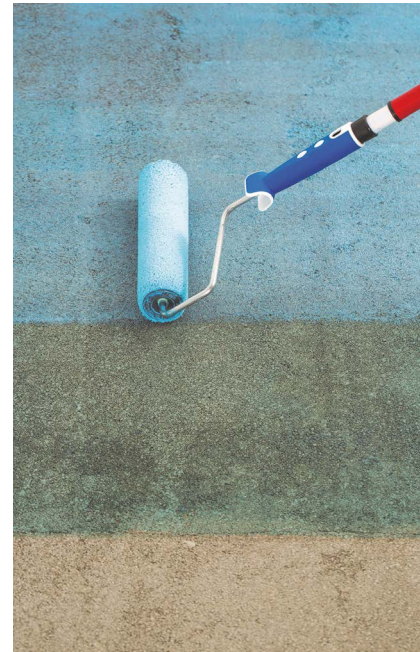
Ready for use with no mixing required, Mapeproof Primer is quick and easy to roller apply; the primer is green in colour to assist with application, certifying full coverage of cement-based substrates. Suitable for both large projects and domestic installations internally, this Mapei offering also benefits from no waste, and can be resealed and stored with no qualms for future use.

For particularly porous substrates, Mapeproof Primer

should be diluted 1:1 with water prior to a further two undiluted coats, to ensure that the primer penetrates the surface of the screed. It must be applied in a minimum of two coats over the whole floor at a temperature of above 10°C.

Upon full application and once dried, the primer provides a waterproof surface membrane, blocking the passing of residual construction moisture from affecting subsequent floorcovering installations, thus allowing early installation of floorcoverings.

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the requirements of DBS checking. Our Paperless online system provides a faster, smoother application process, thus reducing delays in getting your staff started and eliminating errors when completing and receiving disclosure applications.

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Sustainable sealants – lock and Re-load

For most of us involved in the building industry, reducing our environmental impact is an increasingly important priority. One small step that can make a big difference is taking a fresh look at your use of sealants.

Every year, it's estimated that a staggering one hundred million used sealant cartridges are sent to landfill in the UK. That equates to around 6,000 tonnes of non-degradable waste - with at least some of it being produced by the glazing industry. One company which has found an innovative way of addressing this problem is British-based, Bond It.

As David Moore, Managing Director at the manufacturer of sealants, adhesives, grouts and other building chemicals, explains: "For all businesses - including those in the sealant applicator sector - the case for adopting more sustainable products and working practices has never been stronger. Aside from

protecting the environment for future generations, going greener can deliver major benefits in other areas such as potentially reduced costs and increased marketing opportunities.

"It's for this reason that Bond It remains committed to enhancing our range with environmentally friendly products that still offer all the performance of their more traditional, less green counterparts. A prime example of this can be found in our Reload range."

Better by design

Bond It's Reload range of silicones employs a unique reusable design that helps to minimise waste to landfill offering a solution around sustainable packaging. The system is designed for use with special sausage refills. Currently being offered, three of Bond It's most popular silicones and sealants, WP100, Frame-Mate and Multi-Mate, with a view to rolling out

the concept to other products in the range at a later date.

How the Reload refillable system works is simple. The silicone is supplied in the form of EU3 aluminium foil sausages that can be replaced as needed. The end of this refill is removed with scissors before the nozzle is attached as normal. The sealant can then be dispensed using an ordinary skeleton gun and once the refill is used up, the aluminium slug can be simply and cleanly removed and disposed of before another refill is reloaded.

Going green

As well as being incredibly easy to use, the Reload system also offers significant environmental benefits. In particular, both the cartridge and the nozzle are completely recyclable while Reload's refillable nature also means that any excess silicone in the nozzle doesn't go to waste.

For more information on Reload contact our Sales Team on 01422 315300 or visit www.bond-it.co.uk.

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Preserving high standards

Bond It is building on its track record of offering innovative, value adding products with the launch of its new Coloured Wood Preservers.

The business, which ranks as one of the UK's leading manufacturers of sealants, adhesives and building chemicals, has identified the need to offer more wood treatment products under its new Wood Guard banner.

With recent EU legislation banning ingredients such as propiconazole, products containing this active ingredient are currently being phased out throughout the industry. In response to this, Bond It has introduced a Coloured Wood Preserver that offers a waterbased alternative containing no VOCs and no propiconazole, making it safer to use.

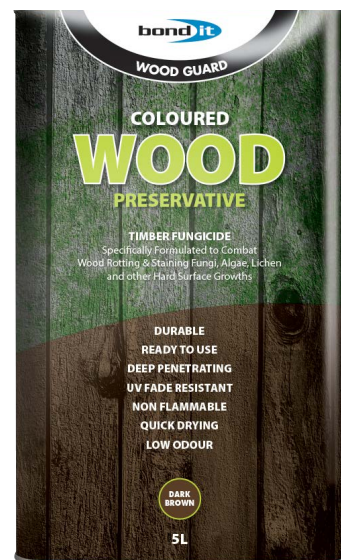
It contains a fungicide specifically formulated for use against wood rotting, decay and staining fungi, algae, lichen and other growths on wood surfaces.

It is an ideal product for the protection of outdoor timber structures such as sheds, fences, trellis, pergolas, gazebos etc and can be applied to all rough, sawn or smooth timbers.

Available in a range of durable UV fade resistant colours that provide deep penetration into timber and leave a colour finish with the natural timber grain texture still visible.

It has virtually no odour and can be applied either by brush or low pressure spray to provide lasting protection. The formulation is water-based producing a non-flammable, quick drying product and is ready to apply direct from the container. It also facilitates easy clean up of brushes and tools.

Dr Kayleigh Cox-Novak, technical manager at Bond It, says: "As a business, Bond It are quick to react to legislative changes affecting the construction industry and strive to offer safer solutions to the users of



our products. The launch of Coloured Wood Preserver reflects this focus on continued innovation and improvement."

Available in 5L tins, the Coloured Wood Preserver is being offered in Light Brown, Dark Brown and Green.

For more information on Seal It contact our Sales Team on 01422 315300 or visit www.bond-it.co.uk.

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MULTIFUNCTIONAL STYLE

After over a year of living with lockdowns, flexibility and work-life balance have become key for most of us

Now more aware than ever of the need for multifunctional spaces for working, schooling, exercising and relaxing, we see the kitchen not just as the heart of the home, but also as an 'everything space', doubling up as an office, classroom, gym and even a bar. Finished just before the pandemic hit, this Arbor kitchen in South London has been a blessing for the homeowners, a family with young children. "We use it pretty much for everything - cooking, studying, reading, playing, dining

and sometimes working", the owner confirms.

Previously four cramped rooms, including a garage, a laundry room, a dining room and the existing kitchen, the space was opened up to create a light-filled open-plan layout with easy access to the outdoors. On top of the homeowners' wish list was storage, so the Harvey Jones designer planned lots of cupboard space through dressers mounted on either end of the worktop

that runs along the back wall and a pantry concealed behind panelled double doors. The central island also allows for pan drawers and a double cupboard, as well as bar seating, while a large wooden table for more formal dining is set a small distance apart from all the action.

Colour has been used expertly to offset the inky cabinetry, painted in 'Keep the Peace' by Valspar and the Calacatta Bluette marble worktops. Wooden



flooring by Trunk and a concrete finish on the surround that encloses the gas fireplace on one side and an American-style fridge-freezer add texture and interest. It is not all elegant restraint though. The dark cabinetry opens to reveal a confident burst of Farrow & Ball's vibrant 'Dutch Orange'. "Applying bolder colours in unexpected places, such as the dresser interior and stools, changes the initial impression of the room and instantly adds depth to the aesthetic", explains Melissa Klink, Creative Director at Harvey Jones. "Strong colours are highly emotional but designing with them in a controlled manner ensures that they liven up the overall feel of the room instead of overpowering it. And there is the added benefit of being able to change the colour easily if you want a little refresh."



“ Applying bolder colours in unexpected places, such as the dresser interior and stools, changes the initial impression of the room and instantly adds depth to the aesthetic”





Q&A with Melissa Klink, Creative Director at Harvey Jones:

The images of this kitchen show the importance of the quality of finishes - the marble surfaces, the wooden floors, the concrete fireplace. Could you tell us more about the choices?

We know how functional the kitchen space is to our everyday needs, and now more than ever we are occupying the room throughout the majority of our time, so you need to appreciate how the materials will react both initially and over a long period of time. It is important to take the variant qualities of each material into consideration - not just the colour, but durability, texture and finish too. Understanding how the materials allow light to travel throughout the space will also make a big difference to the overall sense of inspiration. Taking the time to select not just top-quality finishes, but selections that are unique to our personal style is paramount to creating a timeless finish.

What do you think are the most important things to consider when designing a kitchen, and how does this project reflect these?

The most important thing to consider when designing a kitchen is to make it work for you. You want to guarantee that immediate joy is carried through year after year. There are so many personal decisions to make when creating a kitchen space like this, so it is important to select a designer that you feel connected with - someone that will be dedicated to making sure all of your needs are met from both a practical and design perspective. Going with your gut will help to enhance the experience and provide you with a kitchen that is tailored to you and your life.



Products featured

Appliances:

Fridge: Fisher & Paykel, £1,640
Wine fridge: Fisher & Paykel, £1,120

Dishwasher: Fisher & Paykel, £985
Cooker: Fisher & Paykel, £1,080
Hob: Britannia, £785
Sink: Blaeuo sublime sink, £320
Tap: Quooker tap fusion in Black

Surfaces:

Worktops: Calacatta Bluette marble, supplied by Sidne4Life, £5,000 + VAT - (3 slabs used, cost includes installation)
Flooring: Trunk floor, £79 per sq m

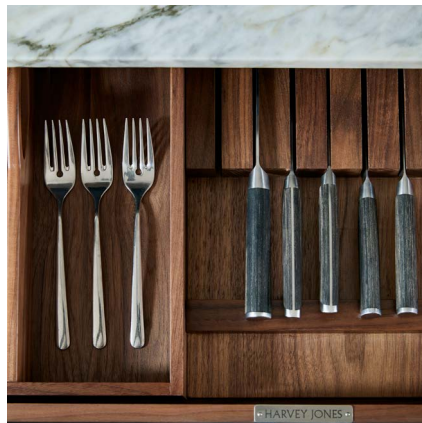
Furniture:

Table: Tiros by Barker & Stonehouse, £1,768
Chairs: Soho Home, £1,225 for 6
Island lamps: Soho Home, £99 each
Wall lamps: Julian Lighting, £300 for 3

Paints:

Walls: Farrow & Ball in Velvet
Kitchen outside cabinets: Valspar in Keep the Peace and Farrow & Ball in Parma Grey
Inside cabinets: Farrow & Ball in Dutch Orange

■ www.harveyjones.com



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THE POST HOUSE

A fun but functional kitchen space

The client had always dreamt of a sunny, spacious kitchen with enough room to accommodate her family – and their busy schedule – her love of entertaining and her vast crockery collection, most of which was collected during family trips and holidays. It was actually a piece of artwork picked up on a break in Cornwall that inspired the bright, striking tones of the kitchen space, designed and installed by Christopher Peters kitchens and interiors.

“Since we purchased the property, we’ve made a number of significant changes to it, but the kitchen was always the area of the home that needed the most work,” she explained. “Originally, it was in a completely different area of the house, where there was very little light and not much space to move around. So we made the decision to move it towards the rear of the property, adding an extension with sliding doors into the garden. With so

much light in the space, thanks also to the two large skylights we installed during the build, we could be as creative as we wanted with the colour palette, so we brought the colours of the painting out into the kitchen space – at the advice of the team at Christopher Peters. We’re so happy we trusted their judgement – the room is so fun and playful, yet functional.”



The work was completed by the Christopher Peters team in February last year, just one month before the country went into lockdown. But, thanks to the convenience of the island unit and oversized dining table, schoolwork stations were in abundance.

“We have three children, aged 12, 10 and 8, so home-schooling quickly became a big part of our lives. The kitchen naturally became the place that the children and I would congregate in – they would be doing their work, whilst I could stand and supervise, preparing meals and keeping everything else in our lives going. For me, the kitchen really came into its own during this time and the little touches that Christopher Peters suggested during the design period became lifelines. For instance, I was rather dubious about installing so many sockets in the island unit, as I felt they might take away from the overall design aesthetic, but with much of the children’s schoolwork relying on the

convenience of a tablet or a laptop, these were used on a daily basis. And, as a self-confessed tea addict, the bespoke tea drawer that the joiners at Christopher Peters added to our pantry unit quickly became my favourite place in the house.”

The clients are also avid entertainers and, when not in lockdown, can often be found hosting family get-togethers for aunts, uncles, cousins and grandparents on an almost weekly basis.

“We needed the space to comfortably sit as many people as possible, without the rigmarole of fetching extra chairs from other rooms in the house every time we had our nieces and nephews over for dinner. So we added a large dining table, which comfortably sits eight, breakfast bar stools to the island unit, and a small sofa behind the dining space. The sliding doors also disappear completely to open to a large patio area.



Unfortunately, most of our friends and family haven't yet seen the renovated space because of the restrictions, but we can't wait to host again when we're able to."

The client was so impressed with the finish of the completed kitchen that the colours used in the design have been incorporated into other areas in the newly renovated detached property.

"I just fell in love with the colours – they really reflect our personality as a family. We've painted a large cupboard in the playroom in the same sunshine yellow as the bespoke unit in the kitchen and have incorporated the soft, grey colour of the kitchen units in most of the other rooms. I guess what they say is true – the kitchen is the heart of the home. It truly is in our case."

■ christopherpeters.com



The client was so impressed with the finish of the completed kitchen that the colours used in the design have been incorporated into other areas in the newly renovated detached property.



Colours used:

Cupboards - Little Greene French Grey Dark

Island - Little Greene Marine Blue

Display Cabinet - Little Greene Mister David.

Worksurfaces:

Caesarstone White Attica

Appliances:

Range Cooker Rangemaster Extractor Westin

Kitchen tap:

Quooker Fusion

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THREE GREAT OPTIONS FOR KITCHEN FLOORING

If the wear and tear on your kitchen floor has dramatically increased in the last year or so, it might be time to start planning a new look

There are dozens of practical, easy to maintain kitchen flooring options on the market that will withstand the daily grind in a busy household and at the same time require minimal upkeep and suit all budgets.

Luxury Vinyl Tiles are a top choice for a style, longevity and a sophisticated look. LVT flooring comes in a wide range of

designs, which replicate stone, tile and timber looks. Formats vary, with some designs looking like traditional square or rectangular stone or ceramic tiles. Other formats are designed to look like real timber planks, so each 'tile' is longer and slimmer. Many designs are textured and have a realistic surface feeling of natural stone or ceramic tiles, and the wood-look designs have

a grained finish, just like real timber. The beauty of an LVT floor is that once it's installed it requires no special maintenance routine and is 100% waterproof, so will withstand any messy cooking incidents or accidental spills.

Good to Know: Lifestyle Floors offer three types of LVT. Clic, PEC (Precision Engineered Core) and Dryback.



Clic and PEC designs 'click' securely and tightly together in a tongue-and-groove style and can be laid over a levelled and dry sub-floor. Dryback LVT is also called 'stick-down' and is glued directly onto a smoothed and prepared sub-floor. Dryback installations can include slim inlay strips to replicated grout lines or to create patterns and borders. Prices for LVT start at £23.49 per sq. m.

Vinyl is often also described sheet vinyl or vinyl on the roll. It comes a huge array of designs and is particularly budget-friendly, with prices from around £16.49 per sq. m. It is a good choice for both large and small spaces as it is straightforward and quick to lay onto a clean, smooth, dry subfloor. In smaller rooms (perhaps such as a utility room, boot room, porch or kitchen-hallway) vinyl makes a good solution for a speedy makeover, and some of our colourful tiled designs can transform a small or awkward space in spectacular fashion. Vinyl is generally available in widths of 2m, 3m and 4m so there is little wastage. Designs include slate, mosaics, tiles, wood and stone, as well as plain and mottled effects. Some ranges have a textile/felt backing, which gives a softer, more comfortable feel underfoot.

Good to Know: Lifestyle Floors offer different thicknesses of vinyl, with different wear-layers of 0.2 to 0.5mm. These measurements refer to the depth of the transparent top layer which adds protection to the 'design layer' and resistance to wear and tear. It should be laid on the smoothest surface possible,

“ The beauty of an LVT floor is that once it's installed it requires no special maintenance routine and is 100% waterproof, so will withstand any messy cooking incidents or accidental spills.



which can be existing smooth, clean, boards, a layer of new plywood, or a concrete or screeded surface.

Laminate: Most laminate flooring is suitable for use in kitchens. Of particular note is the Love AQUA collection, which is a laminate designed specifically for use in potentially wet areas such as a kitchen where spillages may be frequent. Love AQUA has a

water repellent finish and its clic-lock installation system prevents moisture getting in. There are 16 different wood-effect designs to choose from all of which can be installed without the need for tanking the whole room. It is recommended that Love AQUA be professionally installed with an underlay such as Ultra-Light XPS.

■ www.lifestyle-floors.co.uk

KITCHEN PLANNING FAQs

A step-by-step guide for planning your kitchen renovation

When it comes to planning your new kitchen, it can be an exciting yet daunting prospect. Whether you're undecided on what appliances you need or what you can achieve on your budget, Andy Briggs, Interior Designer at Optiplan Kitchens offers his top tips for planning your new dream kitchen renovation, no matter the size of the project.

What do you need?

It can be easy to get carried away in the creative design process, but it's important to take a step back at the beginning and think about what you really need in your kitchen. Do you need space for a big family table or a double oven for those weekly Sunday roasts? Or have the children now moved out and a breakfast bar is all you need? If you are planning a large kitchen renovation, think about if the space works for you or if you need to knock down a wall or plan an extension.

Plumbing & electrics

These might seem like minor decisions, but if you are planning on moving your sink or want to include integrated appliances, you need to plan these upfront to ensure the pipework and electrics are in place. You should also plan your lighting early on in your kitchen design as spotlights and pendants require different fittings and you want to ensure the wiring is in place before you start decorating.



If you are planning a large kitchen renovation, think about if the space works for you or if you need to knock down a wall or plan an extension.

Set a budget

It can be easy to go over budget when taking on a kitchen renovation, so it's important you set this out early on. Always be up-front with your kitchen designer about your budget as they will be able to advise on where to save

and where to invest. For example, open shelving is really popular at the moment, and it can save you hundreds of pounds on additional wall units.

Get inspired!

Finally, spend time researching magazines, social media and the web to find designs and styles that you like and build up a collection of the look you want to create. It's okay if this takes time, as you want to ensure your kitchen design is absolutely perfect for you and your needs. Don't be afraid to ask your kitchen designer for advice too – our kitchen experts have planned and installed hundreds of kitchens and will be able to offer plenty of advice if you're struggling to make a decision.

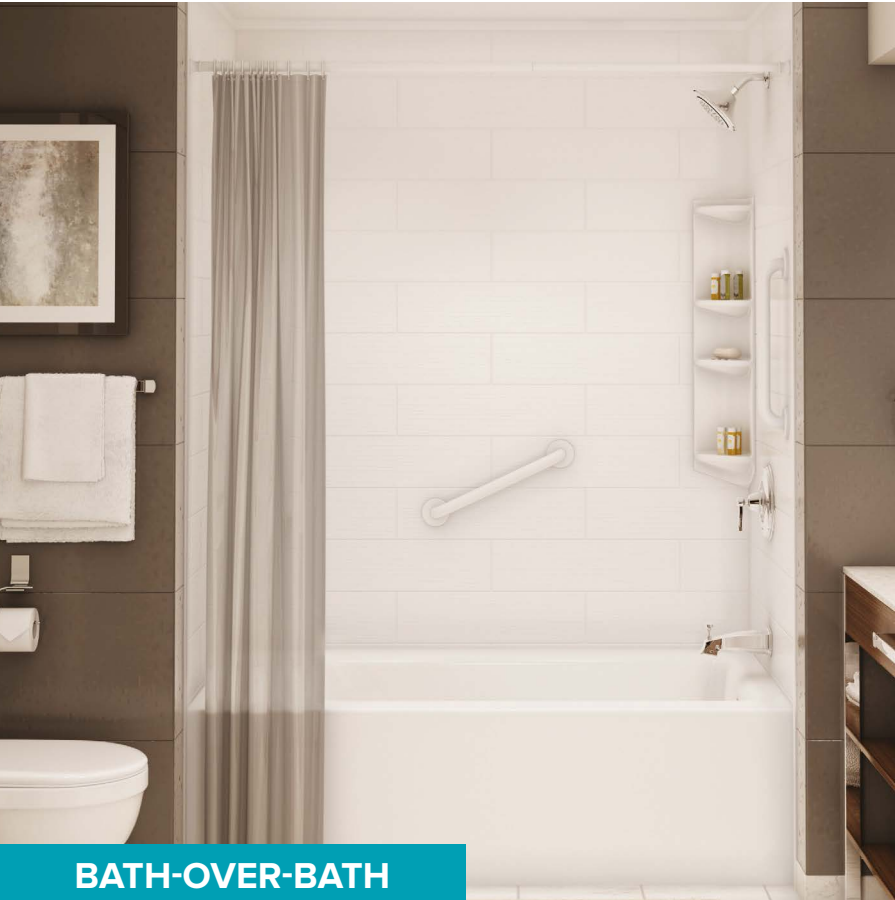
If you're planning your dream kitchen renovation, download the Optiplan Kitchens brochure to start your inspirational journey or book an appointment at your local showroom to meet with one of our kitchen designers.

■ www.optiplankitchens.co.uk



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CLEVER KITCHEN SOLUTIONS FOR DEVELOPERS

The kitchen is most definitely the heart of the home and needs to be carefully designed to sit comfortably and meet the highest expectations of the home buyers

Few potential buyers will be enthused by a home that has a kitchen needing adjustment, so a good kitchen space is crucial for a positive buyer reaction. Good kitchen design is a combination of quality cabinetry, a user-friendly layout, and plenty of storage solutions – as well as a high-end look.

Costs saved on the choice of kitchens for a development can have a big impact on profit margins. Using the services of kitchen resale companies, such as Used Kitchen Exchange, can save up to 90% of the RRP of a kitchen, so

now is a good time to get on board with the growing re-use movement. It's not just about pre-used kitchens from domestic homes, which may very well include barely-used kitchens that were installed in a development home but not to the new owner's taste. It can also include ex-display kitchens from kitchen showrooms – which will look brand new, be expertly designed and hardly used except maybe for the occasional demo!

For a long time, cars were one of the few items people were happy to buy

second-hand, but recently we have experienced a massive shift in the perceptions of the world of 'used'. Far from its previous negative connotations, 'used' is now synonymous with both value for money and waste avoidance. Buying pre-loved has become a badge of honour for Millennials, with the lower price tag and promise of having an input into saving the planet proving an irresistible 'feel-good' combination. Since COVID 19 we have also seen an explosion of interest in sustainable home developments as the housing market booms.



If you choose well on the pre-installed kitchen you'll get a significantly better quality kitchen with all the extras for a fraction of what it would cost if you were to buy new.



Mirroring a circular economy model, the buy/sell market for high end pre-installed designer kitchens is growing rapidly. The opportunity to reduce both costs and the environmental impact of buying a new kitchen can work in two ways: Either by selling an existing pre-installed kitchen(s) from your next developments instead of spending money to remove and skip

them. Or, by buying an approved-used pre-installed kitchen for your next project. Ideally, using both ways means financial savings in both directions.

It's a savvy way to shop. The circular approach will cut the costs of removing and disposing if there is an existing kitchen, and/or allow the purchase a

high-end designer kitchen for a fraction of the RRP, all whilst redirecting potential carbon waste.

James Thomas, Property Developer agrees. He explains, 'Buying pre-owned kitchens for our developments is a 'win win' situation. If you've got the skills and knowledge to design kitchen spaces and access to a decent joiner then definitely consider it as an option. If you choose well on the pre-installed kitchen you'll get a significantly better quality kitchen with all the extras for a fraction of what it would cost if you were to buy new. Compare buying a pre-installed kitchen with the motor industry – with ex-demo cars you usually get low mileage with all the added extras for a much lower price than the list price, and its exactly the same with ex-demo kitchens. Another increasingly important reason and why in many ways we go pre-installed with our developments is the overall impact on the environment. It's important to us to reduce our waste on our builds, and we can do this and reduce our carbon footprint by taking the opportunity to sell and buy used and ex-display kitchens'.

Sustainability is, by definition, all about balance. While cost will always remain the key driver for consumers, this opportunity to make a more ethical choice without compromising on quality, design and function, is not to be missed.

■ www.uke.co.uk



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Originally called "A Touch of Brass", the firm changed their name in 2003 in reaction to slowly advancing market changes in architectural ironmongery which is no longer supplied solely in brass, and to also reflect the broader range of product and finishes that they sell.

In fact today, Touch can supply a wide range of finishes including Brass, Satin Brass, Polished Chrome, Polished Nickel, Satin Nickel, Copper, Bronze – solid and plated, BMA, Antique Brass, Black, Pewter, Ceramic, Leather, Stainless Steel, Satin Stainless Steel, Gun Metal, and the list keeps growing. Whatever finish you require, Touch can help you get the right look.

Touch occupy their recently refurbished showroom at 210 Fulham Road, Chelsea, where they display a vast range of their 5,000 products. With a customer base including Interior Designers, Builders and Individuals who are interested in the quality end of the Ironmongery market, Touch mainly supply to residential premises but hotel and office properties also contribute to their vast clientele.

The company also have a healthy export market to all corners of the world, namely the Middle East, Europe and the Americas. Touch's owner and founder, Bill Benham, has 38 years' experience in the ironmongery trade, as do his colleagues Jim Haselup and Alan Blanchard. Saleem Qureshi is the newest member of our team and has 10 years' experience, meaning their knowledge is unrivalled in this industry.

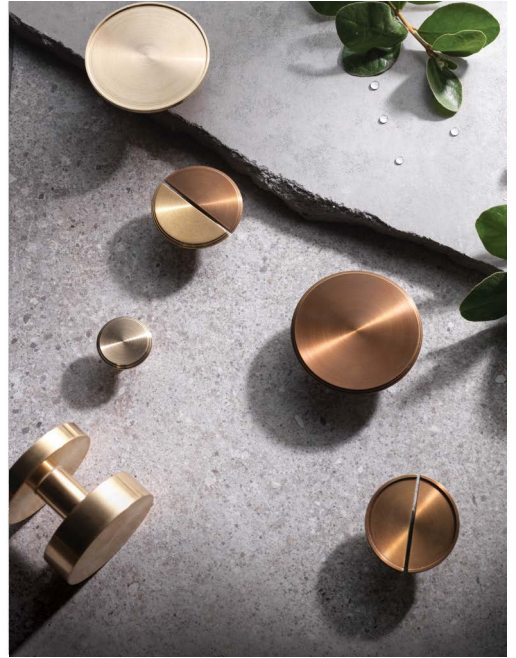
The range of products supplied by Touch date from circa 1640 French (Louise XIV) and cover all subsequent periods (Georgian, Edwardian & Victorian), art deco and contemporary pieces also make up the product ranges. In addition, Touch showcases the very best of British manufacturing; the best ranges are still produced in the Midlands by craftsmen in factories dating back 200 years or more.

Touch Ironmongery have recently become suppliers for **Designer Doorware (Australia)** who have beautiful products with a cutting edge design Metal, Wood and concrete. We also have the exclusive rights to sell the **Olaria (Barcelona)** range in the UK.

Olaria make all our bespoke products, they have incredible levels of workmanship. Touch also sell European manufactured goods which is considered to be of a very good quality and in recent years they have introduced some of the far eastern made products, albeit in a limited range but cost effective. With trends continuously evolving new innovative products are constantly under development. Touch understand that keeping up with the fashion-shifts is imperative in order to provide every customer with the best solution for their requirements.

Ironmongery can be a difficult and complicated aspect of a building project, as a result Touch aim to take this awkward aspect and make it user friendly and clear to understand by offering an on-site service where they carry out a detailed door by door, window by window, room by room Ironmongery schedule, highlighting all requirements and identifying any items that can be refurbished. Refurbishment is a large part of the business; Touch will undertake complete ironmongery refurbishment projects, and can restore old paint covered door furniture to their former glory, looking as new, at a fraction of the cost to replace.

**For more information about Touch Ironmongery or to arrange a
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Olaria, available from Touch Ironmongery

www.atouchofbrass.co.uk & www.olariabarcelona.com





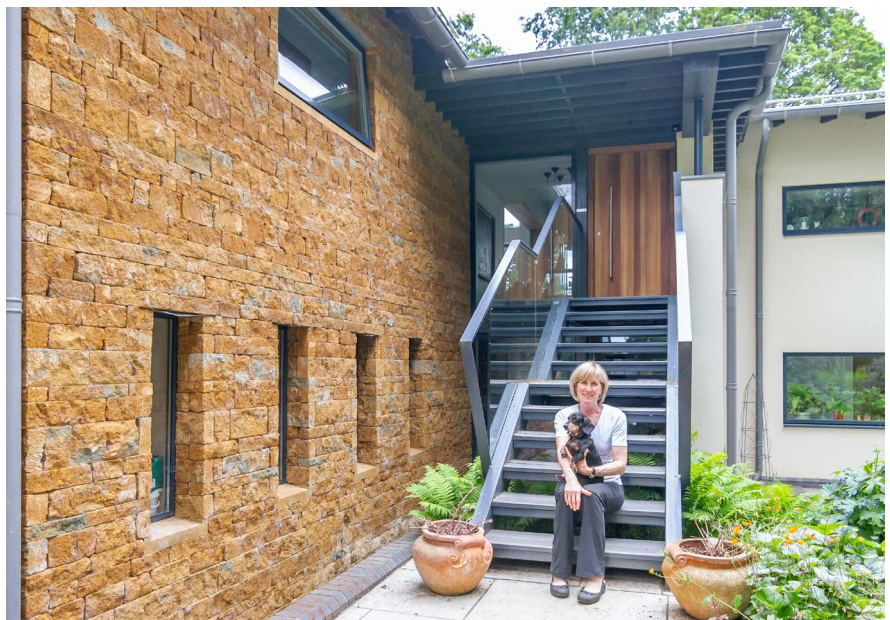
CREATING A GRAND FOREVER HOME

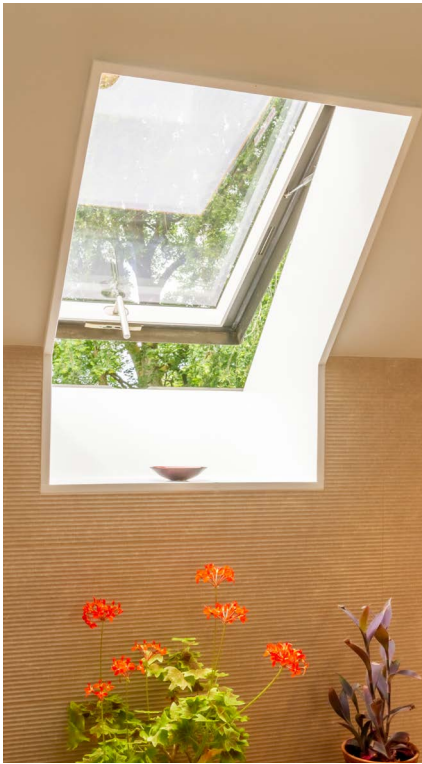
The Long House, Sibford Ferris, Oxfordshire

Sibford Ferris is a small, old rural village in Oxfordshire. Although there are some new builds in the area, they are built with the traditional Cotswold aesthetic to fit in with the existing properties.

When James and Diana Thompson looked to develop an idyllic wooded plot on the outskirts of the village into a rather grand forever home, with ample space for them to retire and have friends and family over, they ran into issues getting planning permission.

Working with Hayward Smart Architects, the Thompsons were eventually granted permission to create their contemporary interpretation of a traditional Oxfordshire home, but it came with some stipulations.





With the surrounding woods, the Thompsons and their architect's immediately identified fenestration as a "make or break" element of the build.

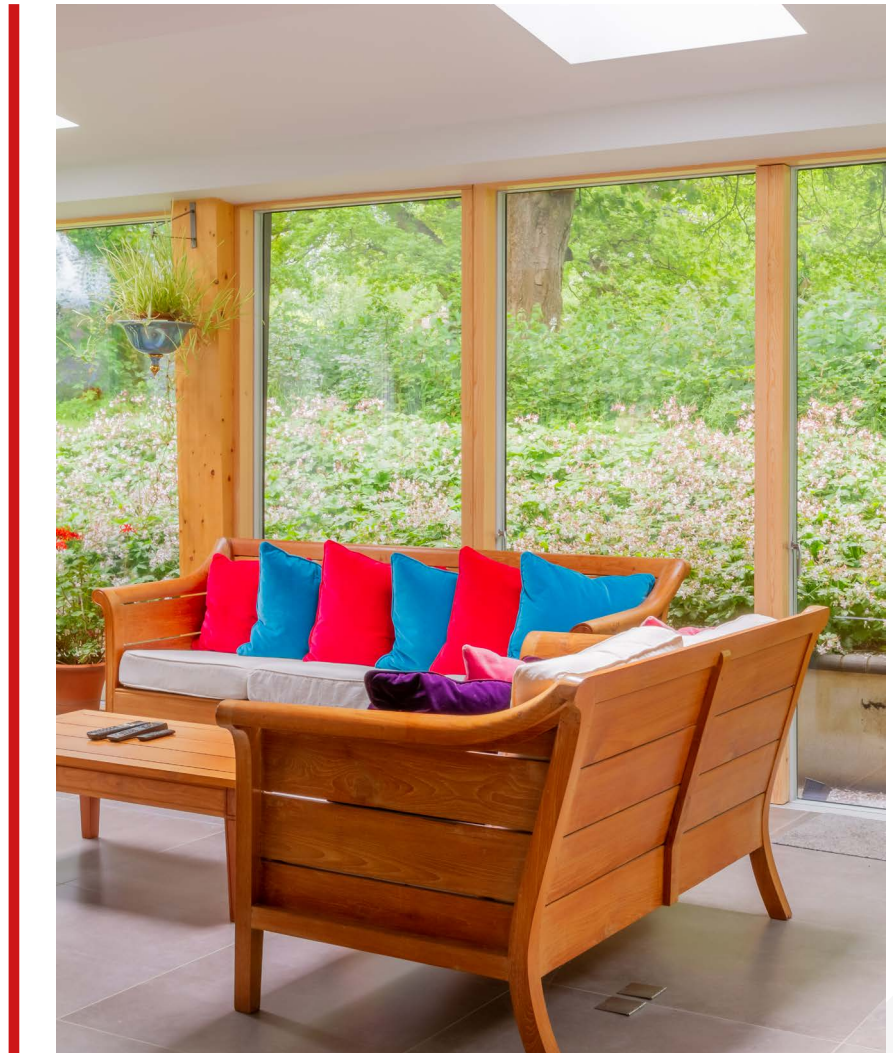
In total, the planning officer imposed 19 conditions and a requirement that the design should be of architectural merit, not suburban in nature and, critically, it must reflect the vernacular of the surrounding buildings.

With the surrounding woods, the Thompsons and their architect's immediately identified fenestration as a "make or break" element of the build. The orientation of the house meant that rooflights were going to be necessary to maximise light. Another chief concern was thermal performance, because they didn't want their efforts to maximise light to result in an over-heated interior.

Of course, when you want to meet planning stipulations that require a contemporary take on traditional designs while maximising light and thermal performance, there is only one brand of rooflights that you can turn to. Having whole window U-values of 1.4Wm²K and providing a sleek, frameless finish, the use of a combination of the Conservation Plateau and the neo rooflights from The Rooflight Company were perfect for the job in terms of both aesthetics and thermal performance.

The finished building is absolutely stunning, and the Thompsons have the contemporary-classic forever home they dreamed of.

■ To find out more about The Rooflight Company's full product portfolio, visit www.therooflightcompany.co.uk





Make light work

"Evidence suggests it's important to have a feelgood factor inside your home. Our positive well-being depends on frequent exposure to light, and daylight is the most powerful way, especially during these times of the pandemic, with more of us working from home and creating a home office or working zone," says Russell Ager, managing director of steel window and door manufacturer Crittall Windows.

"Our homes play a big part in our sense of well-being and their design; lighting and exposure to natural light through windows and doors really do impact. Crittall

steel-framed windows are ideal with their inherent strength allowing large expanses of glass, elegantly slender frames and the slimmest of profiles."

"The hallmark of a Crittall window is the slender steel frame that is so much slimmer – and therefore admits so much more light – than alternative window systems which require far larger profiles due to the basic differences in the frame material and their relative strengths."

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West Fraser product application: Roofing (OSB)

Getting buildings wind and watertight is a priority on any construction site so choosing a quick, easy to install, reliable and versatile roofing system is vital. High quality roof decking or pitched roof sarking is an essential component and Oriented Strand Board (OSB) is now the preferred option for many. Unsurprisingly, given the product's outstanding attributes, West Fraser's SterlingOSB Zero OSB3 or SterlingOSB Zero T&G is frequently the first choice.



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The boards are square-edged so

butt together easily and cleanly. Panels are cut and installed on a roof using conventional roofing equipment and are easy to saw, drill, nail or plane. Nails can be driven as close as 8mm from the panel edge without causing splitting.

With all the advantages of the Sterling OSB Zero range, SterlingOSB Zero T&G is specifically designed for flat roofing and is BBA approved and fully compliant to BS 6229:2003. The panels are consistent and machined to exact tolerances.

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This means that not only are our doors tested, but are externally audited to inspect that they are consistently manufactured correctly. Regularly taking doors from production and testing them to ensure they continue meet the standards required.

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BRINGING THE OUTSIDE IN WITH ORIGIN

Creating that 'new home' feel with new windows and doors



Undertaking a huge renovation project isn't an overnight decision. In the case of the Collins', they lived in their home for seven years before deciding to add an extension and completely refurbish their property.

Six sets of Origin OB-72 Bi-folding Doors, a Residential Door in the SE04 panel design, and OW-80 Windows, all in Anthracite Grey, were used to achieve a modern, cohesive finish. The result not only improves the quality of the living space, but also adds significant value to their property.

The Collins' were initially drawn to the Origin Home range because of the aesthetics.



The chosen bi-fold doors and windows benefit from a large surface area of glass which allows the Collins' to fully enjoy uninterrupted views of their surroundings without having to step outside.



They knew the clean lines and high-quality finish would take the design of their home to the next level, both on the interior and exterior. The premium aluminium which ensures they are built to last further provides the smooth and solid finish that the Collins' were after. The colour choice of Anthracite Grey added the final touch to complete the look of the property.

The chosen bi-fold doors and windows benefit from a large surface area of glass which allows the Collins' to fully enjoy uninterrupted views of their surroundings without having to step outside. They also allow natural light to flood into the home, creating bright and inviting living spaces. When open, the bi-folding doors seamlessly connect the inside living space of the home with the outdoor patio area.

Gable Windows were added to the two pitches of the extension to maximise the impression of the home and add an extra design feature. Finally, the chosen Residential Door ties the whole house together to achieve a cohesive look and feel.

Adding new bi-folding doors and windows to the property enhances a

home much more than just creating cohesion. They bring many practical benefits too. For instance, the Collins' are no longer living with the draughts from their old door and window system. The products specified have a weatherproof seal and a dependable double-glazed unit that keep the weather firmly outside. They also protect against sound, minimising outside noise that can be disruptive to daily life. The Collins' now feel like they are living in a safe haven, shielded from external conditions.

The industry leading security features of the OB-72 Bi-folding Doors, OW-80 Windows and Residential Door provide vital security and protection to the home, offering complete peace of mind to the Collins'.

Overall, the bi-folding doors, windows and residential door have transformed the property and have given the Collins family the 'new home' feel they were striving for.

"We absolutely love these Origin products and have already recommended them to a handful of our friends!" - The Collins'



■ To find out more information about the Origin Home range, please visit origin-global.com.

STUNNING HOME RENOVATION

Stunning home renovation in Kent featuring a Sieger Slim Sliding Door and Sieger Lux Casement Door to maximise natural light. The secondary building to this home was rarely used until it was transformed into a modern and chic living space that is connected to the main home by a glass link.

This project located in Kent uses a two pane Sieger Slim Sliding Door where both panes slide (3.4m wide x 1.8m tall) and a gable end window sits on top (3.4m wide x 1.6m tall) to create an entire glass wall that maximises natural light into the property and views out of it. A Sieger Lux Pivot Door was also used in a hinged casement configuration for another entrance point.

The use of natural wood flooring and maximising the natural light through slim framed aluminium glazing systems gives the space a strong connection to the outdoors. The flush threshold of the Sieger Slim Sliding Door means that when the doors are open the internal living space is merged with the outdoors, providing a seamless transition between the two spaces.

The project was designed and installed by Sieger's glazing partner IQ Glass who also linked the external building to the original house with a thermally insulated, frameless glass link. Invisio structural glazing was used to achieve high thermal performance levels whilst maintaining a minimal design.

■ www.siegersystems.co.uk/mount-house



The use of natural wood flooring and maximising the natural light through slim framed aluminium glazing systems gives the space a strong connection to the outdoors.



Photos: Ciel Interior Design

150 BISHOPSGATE

Dickensian shopfront and curved glass

Located in the city of London, 150 Bishopsgate is based in London's Square mile in a conservation area with some fine examples of Victorian architecture on display. The 43 storey tower rises above the nearby historic buildings and shopfronts in striking juxtaposition.

Listed buildings in the middle of a site where you want to build a new multi-storey luxury hotel and residential development can be a "fly in the ointment" for architects and developers. In the case of 150 Bishopsgate, the buildings on Devonshire row, including an original Victorian shopfront that had to be preserved and sensitively renovated and some new sympathetic replacement shopfronts as well as replacement windows and doors for Devonshire House had to be carefully managed to maintain their historic integrity. George Barnsdale's experience of designing authentic timber windows and doors for historic buildings on commercial developments such as this one is well established and made them the ideal choice for this project.

"Initially, the project looked quite straight forward compared to the very high specification requirements of other large projects we were working on at the time," said Hayden Darley, Technical Director.

"However, the complexities of the job came to light once we started to survey the building and discuss the architect's exacting visual requirements."

As with any old building, the openings are not square meaning that fitting the sliding sash windows into them can result in varying amounts of frame to be visible. Mitigating for this meant many months of design and re-design work, much more detailed surveying of the openings and numerous project meetings to balance what is actually possible to manufacture alongside the architect's requirements.

Once one main design of the windows and the tolerance of visible frame was agreed the installation method was discussed. "This wasn't straight forward," Hayden continues. "We were not able to drill holes in the existing cast columns either side of many of the window openings so had to come up with



The complexities of the job came to light once we started to survey the building and discuss the architect's exacting visual requirements.



innovative solutions to this and get them approved by the wider team."

The sliding sash windows sit beautifully and some incorporate curved glass which look absolutely stunning.

Originally when George Barnsdale started the project the new shopfronts looked like they would be reasonably standard inward opening doors and direct glazed windows, however, the project moved on from there to become some of

the most bespoke items the company has ever worked on.

On the Eastern elevation of the building sits a listed Victorian shopfront that was entrusted to George Barnsdale to remove, take away, refurbish and replicate in places where the original had been removed previously. Painstakingly working to repair and make mouldings, hand carved fixtures and replacing individual panes of single glazed glass, the joinery experts back in Donington, Lincolnshire have restored the shopfront to its former glory for future generations to enjoy.

Commenting, Hayden said "Some parts of the design, despite all of today's modern machinery and CAD design tools were highly complex. It really makes you realise how talented the original craftsmen were. They would have done all the drawings by hand and undertaken the manufacture using very basic machines/tools.

■ T 01775 823000
F 01775 823010
W www.georgebarnsdale.co.uk

A STRIKING AESTHETIC

Gable end windows and sliding doors for a luxurious Oxfordshire Holiday home

By Thames Valley Window Company

Providing homeowners and architects with a huge array of glazing solutions, Thames Valley Window Company was selected to design, supply and install large Gable End Windows and Sliding Doors for an up-market barn conversion nestled in the Oxfordshire countryside.

With a brief to add large expanses of glazing with narrow, contemporary profiles that delivered on durability without compromising on aesthetic, Thames Valley Window Company installed striking glazing solutions with thin aluminium profiles to this property.

Floor to ceiling Gable End Windows were selected to flood the internal room with brightness, whilst maximising the gorgeous rural views surrounding the idyllic holiday home. An on-trend choice, Gable End Windows bring a sense of grandeur and symmetry to characterful properties, offering the perfect balance between contemporary and traditional style.

Working closely with the homeowners, it was decided that Solurlux Slimline Aluminium Sliding Doors would be installed in a Beige Grey colour to complement the honey-coloured stonework, which seamlessly integrated the old with the new. Insulated aluminium frames, with sealed joints and



Insulated aluminium frames, with sealed joints and Planitherm toughened glass deliver excellent thermal performance and superior weather resistance.



Planitherm toughened glass deliver excellent thermal performance and superior weather resistance.

Utilising Thames Valley Window Company's industry leading knowledge and expertise, the team were able to create a holiday home with a striking aesthetic that delivered an overwhelming feeling of space.

Prices

Gable End Windows start from £800 per window

Sliding Doors start from £500 per square metre

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Pure Elegance: Introducing the New Artic White Surface from Staron

Staron is delighted to introduce a beautiful new colourway to its solid surface collection. Gleamingly white, featuring an ever-swirling pattern, Staron's latest shade, Arctic White, brings a sense of serenity to interiors.

Inspired by the great expanse of the Arctic, Staron's newest colour features a beautiful rippling ice-like pattern with light grey detailing used to create a soft marble-effect appearance.

A delicate aesthetic is combined with Staron's unique and robust structure to provide a material that's extremely durable and hardwearing. Perfect for use where hygiene is of utmost importance, Staron's waterproof, non-porous and join-free structure ensures an inhospitable environment for bacteria growth, making Staron one of the most hygienic surfaces in the world.

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This knot-filling adhesive is also available in sixteen different



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www.poweradhesives.com



Earthborn - great for use in nurseries

Colour with a Gentle Touch

With so many paint finishes available these days, it can be tricky to know which product is right for your project. And when it comes to babies and children's rooms, choosing the right paint finish is especially important.

If you are planning a nursery or decorating a children's room, choosing an eco-friendly paint is just one of the little steps you can take towards a greener world.

We're happy to say that all Earthborn interior paint finishes have been certified as safe for use in children's rooms. They carry the Toy Safety Standard making them suitable for use on children's walls, woodwork, furniture and even toys.

They're even safe to use when pregnant!

All of our paints are free from hidden nasties and are fume free, so you can effortlessly create a safe nursery, without compromising on beautiful colour. Earthborn paints enable you to bring friendly flourishes of colour throughout; from the walls, to furniture and even toys, our paints are gentle on your home and your little ones.

Want to know more? Visit the dedicated section of our website where you can read about different finishes and colours and download a useful booklet full of practical advice and inspiration.

www.earthbornpaints.co.uk/child-safe-paint/

CRA REVEALS AWARD-WINNING REPAIR AND REFURBISHMENT PROJECT

The Concrete Repair Association (CRA) has announced the winner of the Concrete Society CRA Repair & Refurbishment Award 2020, presented in recognition of exceptional work to the repair or refurbishment of an existing structure. Currall Lewis & Martin Construction (CLM) has taken the accolade for its concrete repair and cathodic protection project on the A38(M) DC 10-16 Concrete Repairs + ICCP Project, part of an ongoing repair strategy for the Midlands Links Motorway Viaducts.



all eight lanes of the A38 route into Birmingham operational without customer disruption. On average, this road is travelled on 71,832 times daily.

The project involved the essential repair and protection of elevated bridge deck soffits, support columns and panel walls due to significant deterioration. By intricately planning phased concrete repairs and the installation of cathodic protection to the deck soffit, CLM managed the considerable achievement of keeping

The works area and compound location were in extreme proximity, meaning that it was critical to design and implement a robust one-way system and transport plan. In addition, the project's location adjacent to the River Thames, a known flood plain, meant that the Environment Agency required a detailed flood risk plan

emphasising initial plan and layout through to robust reactive measures, should flooding occur.

The award-winning project demonstrated CLM's ability to deliver a complex proposal dealing with multiple complications to provide a solution that exceeded client expectations. The detailed approach to hand-and-arm vibration (HAVS) exposure as well as the precise use of robotic hydro demolition were other standout aspects of the project.

Highly-commended awards go to entries from Fosroc International Limited and Beton Bauen for their work on the Newbridge on Wye, Powys, and PJ Mear Ltd for the Balfon Tower project. The judging panel considered each entry in terms of complexity, quality of service, innovation and environmental considerations of the project.

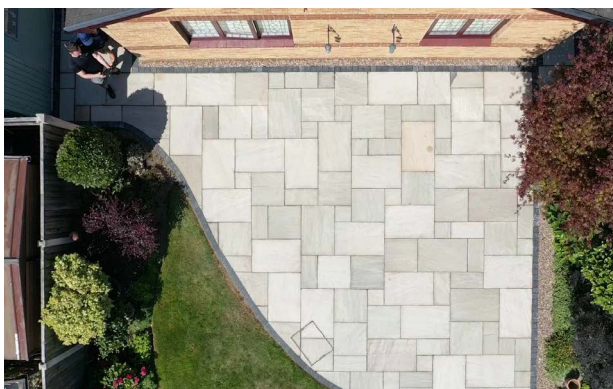
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PRODUCT SHOWCASE



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What is EvoCore?

EvoCore is one of the most versatile flooring ranges on the market. It's suitable home-wide, 100% waterproof, highly durable, easy to maintain and available in a range of budgets so you don't have to compromise style.

Stunning Designs

EvoCore's wide range of styles means both wood and tile designs can be found across its ranges.

With EvoCore 360, you can fit your flooring in the popular herringbone style thanks to a 360 click lock system. It also means you can fit wood designs to tiled effect effortlessly; perfect for room transitions.

Where Can I Buy EvoCore?

The EvoCore ranges are available to purchase at Flooring Superstore, both in-store and online, and you can order free samples of the entire range from their website.



www.flooringsuperstore.com

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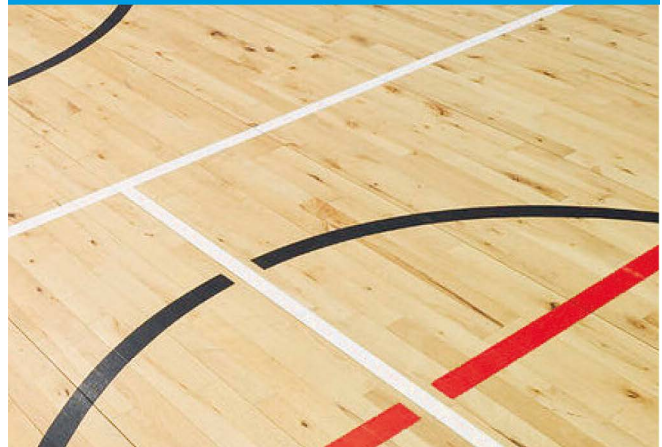
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TIMELESS TRADITION: THE PELHAM PLACE PROJECT BY HAVWOODS

Nestled in the busy streets of Chelsea, the beautiful Grade II listed Pelham Place building has been exceptionally restored into a functional and high-quality family home with the help of Havwoods' wood flooring.

Whilst preserving its heritage value, the brief was to adapt the listed home to better suit the needs of modern day living. The Georgian-style property underwent alterations to the rear elevation, an extension of the southern closet wing and a new bespoke iron staircase to showcase classic design. The décor was further characterised with steel-framed double doors that open out to the rear garden, creating a seamless connection with the outside.

Enhancing the interior with depth and natural character, Havwoods' exquisite Salvo Prime Dark Oak chevron flooring promises an uninterrupted transition across each room in the home. The



kitchen and dining areas are also surfaced with the Salvo finish, with a striking Italian Arabescato marble kitchen countertop and island to complete the overall look.

Chosen for its beautifully on-trend and timeless pattern, the Salvo board from the Design from Havwoods collection delivers a flooring solution perfect for traditional townhouses. The genuine

reclaimed wood surface wears the patina of its past, with natural scuffs and marks, providing a characterful choice for the property.

The aesthetic is completed with rich green tones and luxurious brass detailing to enhance the elegant feel, resulting in a well-appointed heritage home that exudes hints of chic contemporary character.

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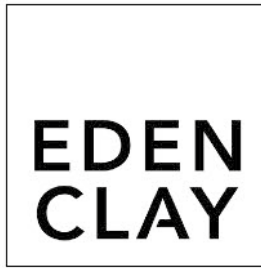
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WOOD FLOORING AND TILE COMPANY

Eden Clay have come a long way since beginning as two individuals set on serving local businesses and retail customers with products sourced from UK distributors. They now have a large team of talented individuals, import all their products direct from European manufacturers, produce all of their own wood flooring, and sell and install nationally for some of the countries most recognisable brands and personalities.

"It's said that when starting a business "do what you know". We built Eden Clay around the products we know inside out and centred it on service over sales. This is still at the heart of what we do, with our staff, showroom and website focused on the experience of finding the perfect tile and wood floor for your business or home." Co founder Mark Bowring.

Why Eden Clay?

Their wood flooring is hand finished in the UK providing their clients with a unique range of quality products including perfectly colour matched trims and accessories, and their tile collections include a number that are exclusive to them, with the majority imported directly from Italy.

However the aspect they are most proud of is their ability to equally and comprehensively service the commercial and domestic markets, offering both experiences tailored to their differing needs.

Commercial

For Architects technical downloads and installation details specific to each product are available, as well as director lead technical support.

For Interior Designers detail is the key. Design is fundamental to Eden Clays product range and effort has been made to support current trends. Comprehensive samples are available to order or take away.

For Developers, being importers Eden Clay are able to offer a very competitive price point, especially considering the high quality of their products.

For Contractors site support and product training is available. This is supported by downloadable installation guides and video guides on request.

Domestic

For home owners, Eden Clay understands the difficulties faced with selecting the right wood floor or tile. Both products are a permanent fixture in your home that helps determine its final aesthetic, so to help their clients make the right choice imagery of each product installed is available, and free samples and larger panels on request are provided.

With new products being added to their portfolio and website weekly, and the addition of a room visualiser app to come, Eden Clay are continually looking to improve their clients choices and experience.

Eden Clay has fast become a trusted brand for tiles and wood flooring.

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- High quality, hand decorated ceramic log fuel bed



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■ For more information about our products, please visit: www.solutionfires.co.uk



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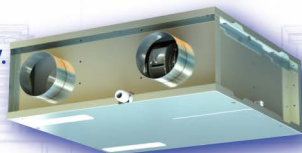
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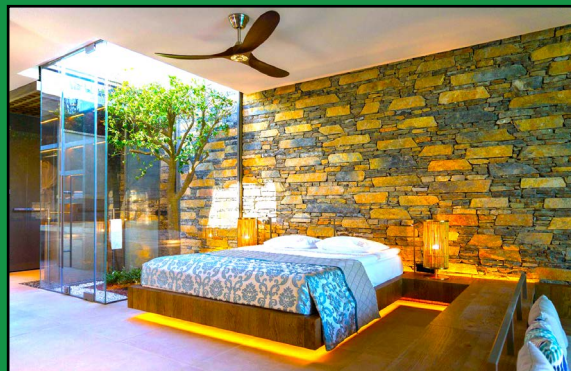
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CONSERVATORY ROOF INSULATION

Fad or Necessity? We look at the facts...

Over the past twenty years or so there has been enormous growth in the sale of domestic conservatories and it is quite easy to see why.

Over the past twenty years or so there has been enormous growth in the sale of domestic conservatories and it is quite easy to see why.

Apart from the fact that they do add a certain style to your home, they are also really great spaces to relax and enjoy quality time in.

As a result of the easing of town planning laws and building regulations, many home owners are at liberty to extend their living space without any of the usual cost and red tape involved in applying for approval for a conventional extension.

Local authorities have eased planning permission and building regulations.

So for the home owner it really does look like a win-win situation but there are of course some drawbacks.

Despite the many, many advantages, conservatories in general are not very thermally efficient. This can result in situations where the cost of heating is extremely high in the winter and reducing the summer heat gain is next to impossible.

Many conservatory owners have, over the years purchased blinds in an attempt to deal with this very problem and although they do offer some small benefit, they are largely ineffective.

In the last ten years there has been the emergence of a few specialist companies that can provide a real answer to the problem.

These companies fall broadly into two categories; Those that remove the entire conservatory roof and replace it with a tiled roof system and those conservatory roof.

In most circumstances both methods will provide good thermal insulation, making the conservatory usable every day of the year.

The down side to the roof replacement method is that one may need to obtain building regulations approval, the cost of the replacement roof system will be quite high and it is not a very quick installation.

The upside of the roof replacement is that a conservatory with an existing roof that is beyond economic repair can be given a new lease of life.



On the other hand, if the existing roof is serviceable, then having an insulated ceiling installed will convert the conservatory into the beautiful haven that had been hoped for but at a fraction of the cost - usually within one or two days.

So to answer our own question - Fad or Necessity, in most cases conservatory owners will need some form of insulation in summer if their conservatory is south or south westerly facing.

And regardless of direction, they would certainly benefit from lower energy costs in winter if they installed an insulated ceiling or replacement roof.

The government seems to agree and allows these companies to charge the energy saving reduced VAT rate of just 5%.

The government allows these companies to charge the energy saving reduced VAT rate of 5%.



Rundle & Dorey Ltd

CONSERVATORY INSULATION SPECIALISTS



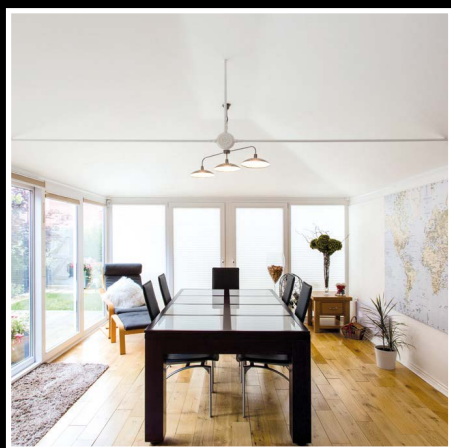
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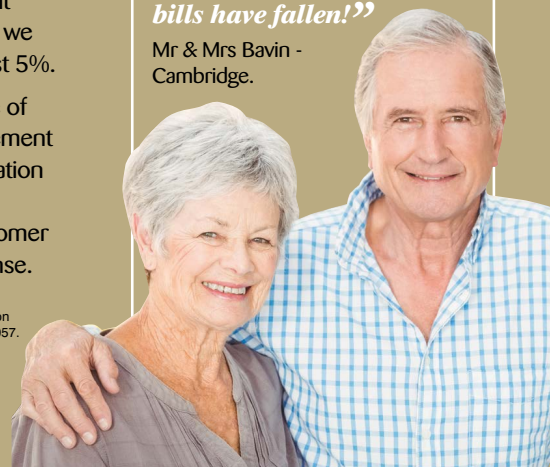
Want something to lift your spirits? Rundle & Dorey can turn your conservatory into a comfortable and quiet living area or home office, next week - **YES next week**. Our fast turn-around service, undertaken by our in-house installation team will make sure all measures are taken, to keep you Covid safe.

Plus as an installer of a government recognised energy saving product we are authorised to charge VAT at just 5%.

Also available is the Pinnacle range of lightweight, solid, tiled roof replacement - fully approved and building regulation certified. What are you waiting for? Contact a member of friendly customer care team for an immediate response.

“Since having the ceiling installed, we’ve noticed an increase in the use of our conservatory. Now we can enjoy a normal range of temperatures throughout the year, and our heating bills have fallen!”

Mr & Mrs Bavin - Cambridge.



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Underfloor heating is a cleaner, more efficient way to heat a home and is suitable for both new-build and renovation projects. Floor heaters require less energy to reach optimal comfort temperatures than traditional heating systems and with this increased energy-efficiency, you can expect lower long-term running costs. The 'invisible' nature of underfloor heating also facilitates complete freedom when designing your home, with no style interruptions caused by bulky radiators and exposed piping.

Warmup Underfloor Heating provides a bespoke floor-heating solution specifically designed and built to suit your requirements. With over 20 years of experience in heating homes, Warmup offer optimised electric and water underfloor heating systems to bring cost-savings, energy-efficiency and design freedom to your project.

Hydronic Underfloor Heating Systems

Hydronic Underfloor Heating, also known as Wet or Water Underfloor

Heating, is a contemporary heating system that pumps heated water from a heat source through pipes within the floor construction. This heated water produces radiant warmth which heats up a room to a consistent, comfortable temperature from the floor up.

Key Benefits:

- Suitable for almost all floor finishes and room types
- Compatible with a variety of heat sources
- Perfect for new build and large-scale renovation projects
- Lower running costs

Reducing CO2 Emissions: Warmup Pro Hydro

Warmup Pro Hydro is the world's first tool to instantly and automatically design bespoke underfloor heating systems, meaning real savings for installers and their customers by making correctly specified underfloor heating as quick

and easy to buy as pre-packaged room kits.

In comparison to pre-packaged room kits, Warmup Pro Hydro uses up to 20% less pipe, because spacings are automatically optimised for the heat loss of the room. That is equivalent to saving an entire room's worth of pipe on a 100m² install. By automatically optimising the design of the system for the heat loss of the rooms, Warmup Pro Hydro can ensure enough heat output for the coldest days at lower flow temperatures. This allows the heat source to run at more efficient temperatures, saving up to 10% in energy use. In fact, for every 100 homes built with Warmup Pro Hydro systems instead of pre-packaged room kits, over 15 tons of CO₂ is saved each year.

Scan the QR code below to get a quote. Simply enter the details of your project and in a few clicks, we'll provide you with a comprehensive quote with full costings.

■ www.optiplankitchens.co.uk

Warmup



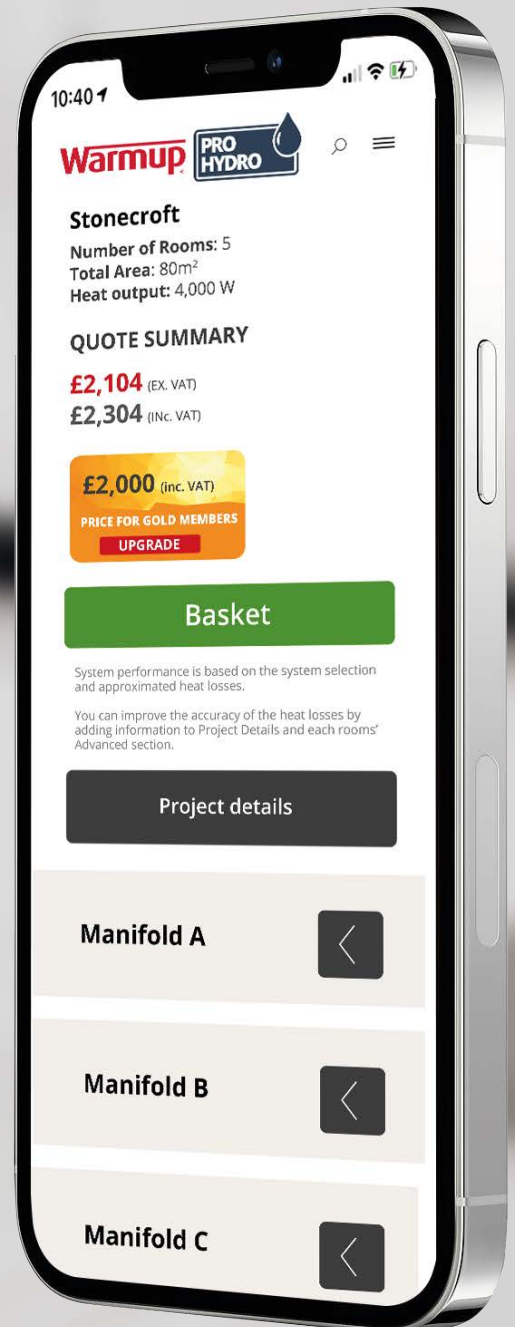
Get water underfloor heating quotes

in seconds that give the perfect temperature

required to heat your home.

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- ✓ Instant Heat Loss Estimates
- ✓ Full Commissioning Log Included
- ✓ Up to 10% Reduction in Running Costs
- ✓ Up to 10% Reduction in Material Wastage



Scan to Get a Quote





KNIGHT FRANK REFURBISHMENT

BW: Workplace Experts transforms prestigious global headquarters for Knight Frank

BW: Workplace Experts has recently completed the refurbishment of the Baker Street headquarters for global property consultancy Knight Frank. Working with architects Resonate, BW strategically phased the project to ensure that 80% of areas could remain fully operational at any one time.

Faced with the task of completing this

80,000 sq. ft build while BW ensured minimal disruption for the constant flow of staff, visitors and clients.

Areas within the refit included three floors of office space, the reception and high-quality meeting rooms. While all floors were designed with state-of-the-art AV systems applied across all floors, the build also included technological

advancements such as touch screens and 4K HD video walls, providing a productive and efficient working environment.

The success of such a build can be accredited to meticulous planning in order to meet deadlines for both BW and for their client, who had an upcoming major event taking place in the space.

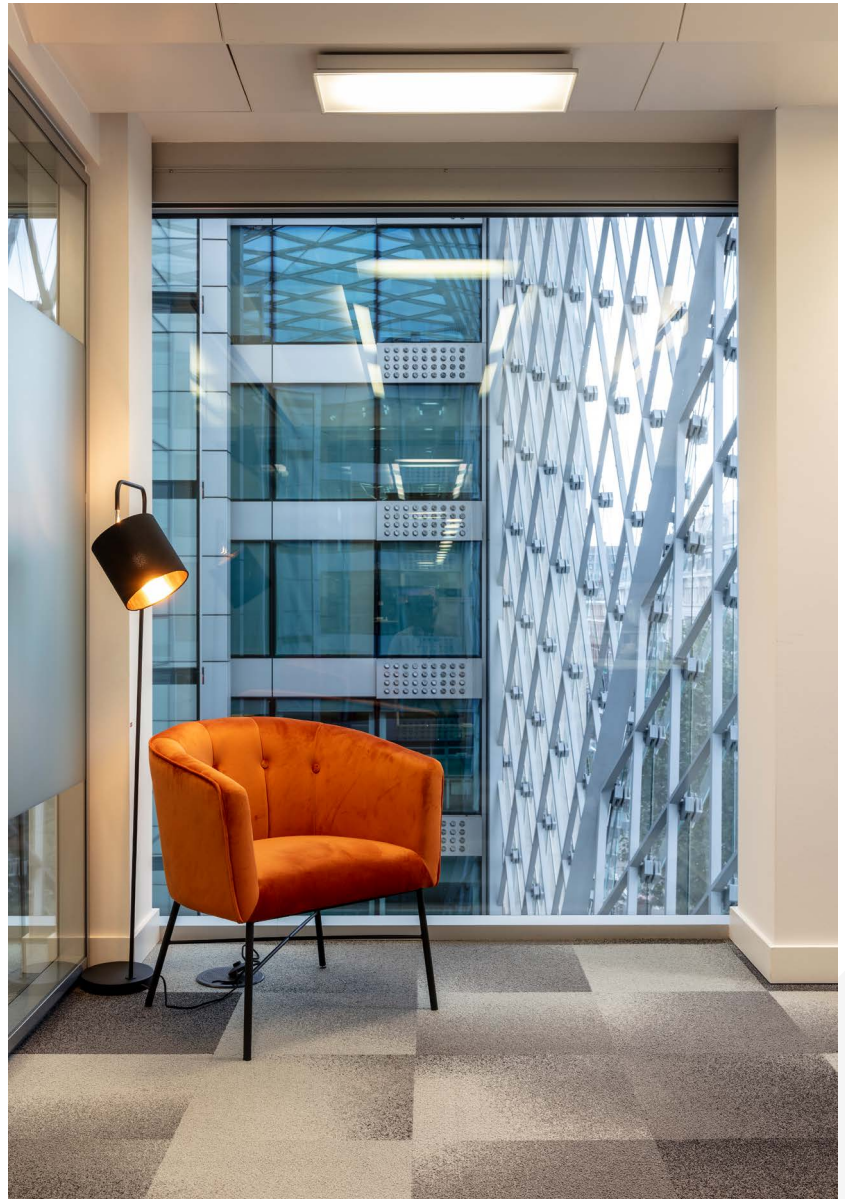
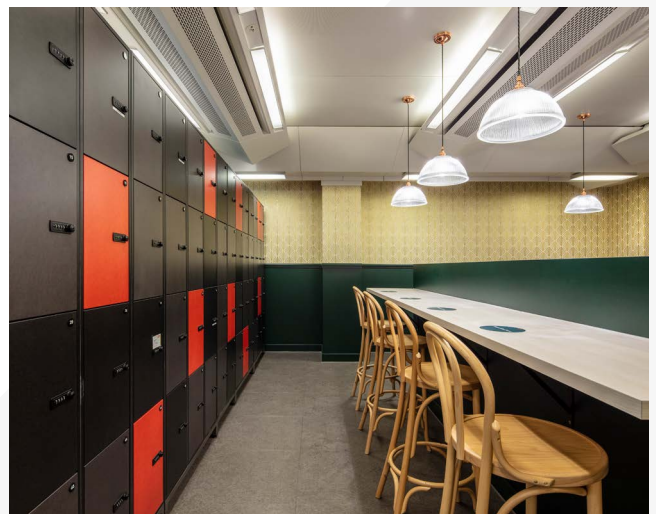
Peter Nagle, Managing Director at BW: Workplace Experts said:

“We have worked with Knight Frank for a number of years on different projects, so to be asked to manage their own headquarters was an absolute honour and further cements our relationship with this prestigious client.”

BW has developed a long-standing relationship with Knight Frank, including working on another London project in Gutter Lane earlier this year.

wearebw.com

“ The success of such a build can be accredited to meticulous planning in order to meet deadlines for both BW and for their client, who had an upcoming major event taking place in the space.



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Design Furniture

The Tojo Möbel GmbH is a dynamic, innovative company that was founded in June 2000. The aim is to create furniture with alongside time-less design which distinguish them from its functionality, ecology and economy.

The sales success of the design-oriented and award-winning products at affordable prices shows that the Tojo Furniture Co reflects the times.



reddot winner 2021
furniture design





ELEVATE YOUR SPACE

Cibes Lift UK deliver unparalleled Scandinavian design and elegance, with home and commercial lifts that elevate your space, as well as adding functionality. Increasing the value, opulence, and longevity of your home is a reality with Cibes. Each lift is specially designed for ease of use and safety for all the family.

With endless customisation and colour options, Cibes truly creates a statement lift, unique to your space. Curate your lift from a wide array of flooring and finish options, forging your very own one-of-a-kind architectural statement.

With expert engineers, your lift will be installed and ready to use within days thanks to experienced streamlined installation procedures.





Our maintenance plans make it so easy to ensure the smooth and reliable running of your lift year-round.

Home Lifts

Cibes home lifts are machine room-less, compact lift solutions, which have a low pit and top height compared to conventional lifts. Maximising the internal platform space is an integral design element of Cibes Platform lifts, ensuring you get the most from your space. With so many benefits, you will not find a better lift solution:

- Minimal structural impact
- Minimal refurbishment
- Fast track manufacturing & delivery
- Installation in just a few days
- Increase accessibility
- Improve safety
- A sense of luxury
- Future proof your home
- Increase resale value

Eco Range

For the environmentally conscious, the EcoSilent will tick every box for those wanting energy saving alternatives. Virtually silent, this lift uses around 45% less energy than a standard lift without its smart technology. Enjoy the comfort



of your lift any time of day or night, without disrupting anyone else around you. The EcoSilent drive system acts like a built-in eco setting. It makes our home lift run in eco mode all the time.

- Carries Energy Label A
- Energy consumption of 215 kWh/year*
- Less than a modern washing machine

Ordering a home lift with Cibes is a simple and hassle-free process, our team will guide you every step of the way. With both indoor and outdoor choices, Cibes will make sure your lift

is perfectly integrated into your lifestyle and requirements. Take inspiration from our lifts installed all over the world from Dubai to the USA and embrace true Scandinavian delight of a custom made lift.

■ **To find out more about Cibes Lift UK visit www.cibeslift.com/gb. Email info@cibeslift.co.uk or call 0800 085 0269.**

Cibes

JEFFREYS INTERIORS

Based in a Georgian townhouse in the heart of Edinburgh's Stockbridge neighbourhood, the ten strong team of design professionals at Jeffreys Interiors are renowned for their bold designs, intelligent and functional choices, and playful sense of colour and proportion.

Entering on the ground floor, you are taken into Jeffreys Interiors award-winning retail showroom. Following the layout of a traditional home, you can walk through curated room sets and purchase pieces sourced from the forefront of the design industry, including Tom Faulkner, Julian Chichester, Porta Romana, and William Yeoward, as well as an ever changing collection of unique accessories and artworks.

Downstairs, you'll discover the design studio – a warren of interlinked offices, presentation areas, and creative working space with expansive fabric and wallpaper libraries. Recent projects include full townhouse designs in Edinburgh, a stately home renovation in East Lothian, and a commercial wedding venue and hotel in Northumberland.

No visit to Edinburgh is complete without a visit to Jeffreys Interiors and the adjacent insta-famous Circus Lane, however, if you aren't in the area, they travel nationally and work remotely to deliver your scheme. Review the portfolio and get in touch via the website.

■ www.jeffreys-interiors.co.uk





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GIB ASSET MANAGEMENT CASE STUDY

Pelon Rose creates office oasis for leading finance company

When it came to creating a new office for Gulf International Bank Asset Management (GIB AM), the team wanted a space to incorporate some of its key values: environmental responsibility, staff wellbeing and inclusion. Leading design and build company, Peldon Rose, was tasked with the challenge of renovating the 12,150sq ft workplace in Mayfair.

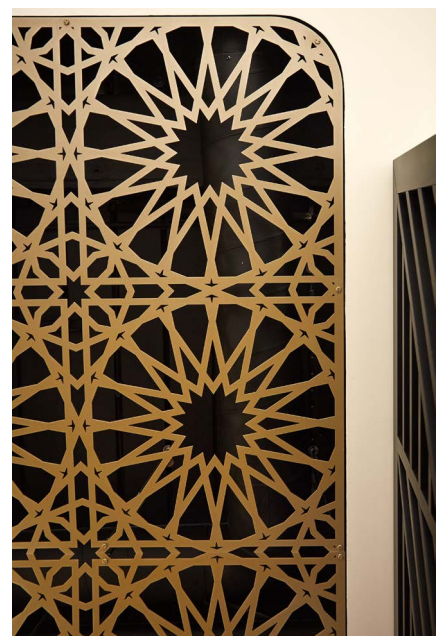
The project was secured at the end of 2019, meaning the team was up against the challenge of completing the project during pandemic restrictions. With the immediate client team residing outside of London, the client was only able to visit the site once. This meant that clear communication and collaboration was required at every stage of the process to ensure a smooth and successful build.

Making a good first impression

For GIB AM, making a positive impression is an integral part of its business, so it was important that the company's office did the same from the outset. This meant the workplace reception needed to create an impact, acting as a multi-functional space to host meetings, greet clients and entertain high-profile guests. The Peldon Rose team created a striking and inviting front of house meeting suite, which includes catering facilities, so it can easily be adapted for a variety of meetings and events.

Creating a positive space

Employee wellbeing is one of GIB AM's top priorities, so the company wanted an office layout that offered



flexibility, inclusivity, and would accommodate a growing team. Moving away from the idea of cellular cubicles and fixed workstations, Peldon Rose designed the new office with a variety of flexible spaces to support different working styles and purposes without compromising on capacity. This includes spaces for collaborative team meetings, one-to-one catchups and quieter areas for confidential phone calls.

The team also ensured the space was carefully designed so staff workstations were positioned in locations wherever possible with access to natural light, to help elevate the team's health and wellbeing.

Aligning with GIB AM's sustainability values, Peldon Rose set out to achieve accreditation to champion the company's commitment to the environment. Through sourcing sustainable, natural materials, such as a carpet tile with a 100% recyclable base, by selecting British products where possible, and with careful management of the build process, the workplace was awarded SKA Gold certification.

Embedding the company's heritage

Georgia Nogas, project designer at Peldon Rose said: "It was very important that the roots of the company's heritage were firmly planted in the office. Inspired by the geography of the Middle East, we came up with the idea of creating a central 'island'. This acts as the focal point of our design, playing host to alternative work settings and areas focused on wellbeing, such as touchdown zones, a wellness room and quieter work booths for concentration.

"An oasis in the workplace, the colleague breakout space features a



“ To ensure inspiration from the Middle East was embedded throughout the design, we've also included various design features to emulate rolling sand dunes, as well as the rocky coastline.

rich palette of vibrant turquoise, purples and warm coppers. To facilitate social interaction between colleagues, we've incorporated a mix of communal tables, booth seating and high tables to offer teams the flexibility to congregate in the space throughout the working day. To ensure inspiration from the Middle East was embedded throughout the design, we've also included various design features to emulate rolling sand dunes, as well as the rocky coastline. The high-quality finishes and careful attention to detail installed is maintained throughout the workspace, featuring opulent lighting and geometric designs. Further, of critical importance to GIBAM is its clients. With this in mind, we created areas for clients visiting GIB in person, as well as installing high quality digital technology to support effective remote and virtual interaction."

A workplace accessible to everyone

GIB AM is committed to being a fully inclusive employer and is a proud member of the Valuable 500 initiative, a global movement putting disability on the business leadership agenda. This meant that creating a space that is accessible and inclusive for all underpinned the entire design process. This included installing automatic doors and incorporating a variety of comfortable working environments. The design also features private areas to encourage focused work, designed with calming colours, adapted to be used by those who are susceptible to sensory overload.

■ Learn more about Peldon Rose here: www.peldonrose.com



ELEGANT AND TIMELESS

Ahmarra's Artisan Panel Door Collection

Ahmarra Door Solutions are one of the UK's leading architectural door manufacturers covering all sectors including luxury residential, hotel, airport, education and commercial. They work closely with interior designers and architects to manufacture bespoke doorsets, and have developed sector specific ranges to aid design decisions and specification.

Their Artisan Panel Door Collection adds a touch of luxury to any home or business. The collection includes their most successful traditional and contemporary panel doors, which can be tailored to complement your interior design. Ahmarra offer full product certification, including ISO 9001, ISO 14001, FSC® and the Q-Mark Fire Door Manufacturers scheme.

All of their stunning Artisan doors are made to order, ensuring that your project is truly unique. You choose the style, the material and the finish, creating the perfect look with limitless options. Ahmarra also offer a colour matching service, so that doors can be made to match other elements of your design scheme. They can even supply extra components to complement the doors, including skirting boards, lining, architraves and ironmongery.

Ahmarra have supplied bespoke panel doors to many high-end properties including Magna Carta Park, a private residential estate in Surrey, Pentagon Apartments in Herefordshire and Arts House in Kensington, London.

Based in Hampshire, Ahmarra have been manufacturing doors for over 25 years. They are proud to fly the flag for British manufacturing and use traditional craftsmanship, cutting edge technology and the finest materials to guarantee exceptional standards. Ahmarra are also committed to sustainable working practices, and as such, use FSC® certified timber sourced from responsibly managed forests to manufacture their doors and frames.

Ahmarra's core values are based on providing you with the highest quality of service, whilst making the entire process as simple and as practical as



possible for you. Their experienced specifications team are always on hand to offer guidance and ensure Buildings Regulations are met. They also offer a Q-Mark certified fire door installation service.

■ To learn more, visit;
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GILES NORMAN STUDIO

KINSALE, COUNTY CORK, IRELAND

By Ventura Design

Ventura Design, working on behalf of photographer Giles Norman and his wife Catherine, helped to transform an old Georgian townhouse in Kinsale, South West Ireland, into a 21st century guesthouse, complemented by stunning photography and a harbour view.

For this Irish coastal guesthouse, the team at Ventura Design considered the canvas of the space as a glorious backdrop to a soft interior. Emphasis was placed on the original brick and wood features, with a neutral colour palette of off-whites and Wedgwood grey.





“ Giles and Catherine, together with Ventura Design, and Cork-based conservation specialists, have brought an old Georgian townhouse into the 21st century,

This pared-back palette let all the exquisite photography on display really pop. This is the antidote to clichéd coastal interiors. Rooms feel slick, mature – and as multi-faceted as the ocean itself.

Bespoke furniture using velvets, linens and weaves in blue, grey, silver and orange softened the look, adding texture and colour.

The former merchant's house, one of the oldest in the Cork harbour town of Kinsale, had been the client's home, workspace and gallery for more than 30 years. But with the upstairs darkroom gone and their children ready to fly the nest, Giles and his wife Catherine could think of no obvious use for the two floors of rooms and giant attic space above the landmark gallery.

Giles and Catherine, together with

Ventura Design, and Cork-based conservation specialists, have brought an old Georgian townhouse into the 21st century, retaining as much of the original character and features as had survived but giving the rooms a warm, contemporary look and feel.

■ **Tel: +353 1 820 8480**
Email: info@ventura.ie
Web: www.ventura.ie





THE 23 MARINA VILLAGE

GREYSTONES, COUNTY WICKLOW, IRELAND

By Ventura Design



Once a small fishing village, since Victorian times Greystones in County Wicklow has been a fashionable destination for homeowners who want to live by the sea but remain within a short commute of Dublin.

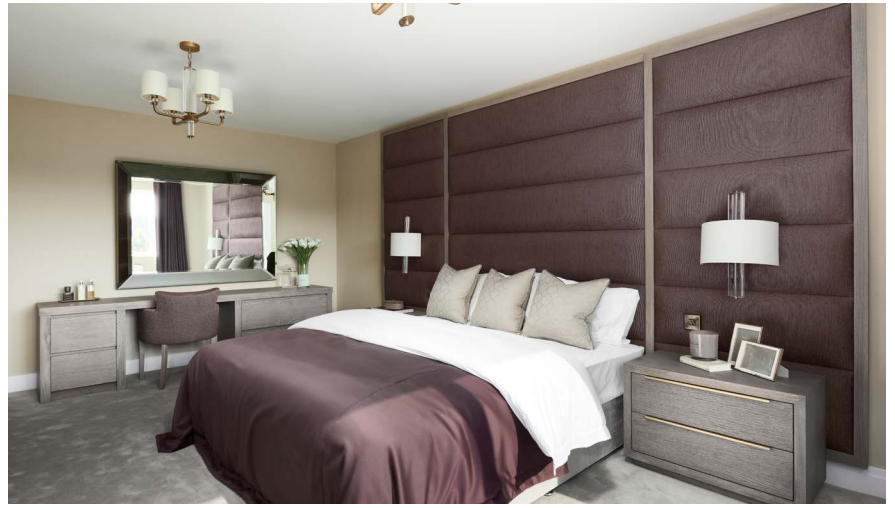
For the interiors of Marina Village, a luxury new property development on the harbour of the town, Ventura Design created a seascape of furnishings to reference the property's coastal setting.

Powdery pale sofas and cushions were tempered with blue and greige tones, plenty of rustic wooden elements and panelling detail brought a natural look, while mixed luxe fabrics and architectural lighting kept things modern.

With the classic, contemporary look being very much in demand in Ireland now, Ventura followed a nautical theme without it being too cheesy. There are lots of sea greens, blues and other warm, cosy colours.

Given that many rooms command views out over the Irish Sea towards Bray Head, window treatments frame to draw the eye out, and the furnishing and palettes in these rooms compliment the stunning views.

■ **Tel: +353 1 820 8480**
Email: info@ventura.ie
Web: www.ventura.ie



“ For the interiors of Marina Village, a luxury new property development on the harbour of the town, Ventura Design created a seascape of furnishings to reference the property’s coastal setting.





A FRESH NEW SPACE FOR INNOVATION

BDG architecture + design completes transformation for Montagu Evans, developing the next generation of office space

BDG architecture + design was appointed as lead design consultant for the relocation of property firm Montagu Evans from Mayfair to 70 St Mary Axe in the heart of the City of London. The new workplace design creates spaces for the 270 staff members to collaborate on shared projects in a more creative way, as well as provide client-orientated areas.

Montagu Evans took 25,500 sq. ft of space, across two levels of the new building by Foggo Associates. BDG worked on the strategy and design of this new space on levels 11 and 12 of the building, with BW: Workplace Experts appointed for the fit out.

Level 11 has a series of worksettings such as booths and team working areas including a long banquette opposite whiteboards that follow the length of the open space surrounding the staircase. The hotdesking area has its own kitchenette, which allows for smaller café-type meetings and for clients and consultants alike to come and work.

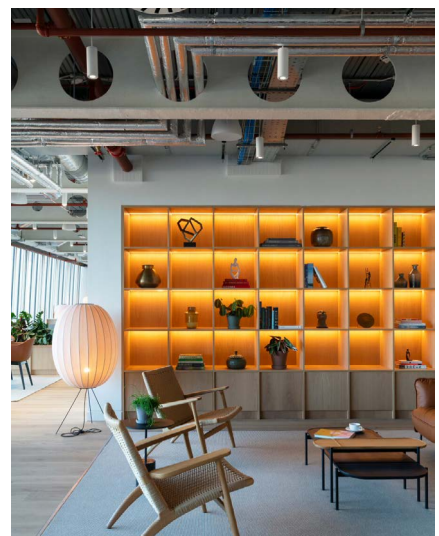
The upper floor has a variety of different spaces including flexible working areas, meeting rooms and breakout zones that are both functional and creative. These teamworking areas reflect the strategic move to neighbourhood groupings, where individuals now sit with experts in similar industries, working with complementary clients.

While co-working spaces have been perfected, Montagu Evans wanted to also allow for more private places for those looking for quieter working, hence the inclusion of a library and wellbeing space.

This fresh new space for innovation maximises natural light thanks to its 360 degree views of the Square Mile and beyond and the layout has been deliberately planned around efficient building density.

For further Information please contact:
Anna King tel + 44 (0) 7780 956 291
email: anna@informare.co.uk

■ www.bdg-a-d.com




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Moisture in walls causes efflorescence and salt crystallization, which can turn in structural damages. Renovation needs a proper sealing of the leakage and a removal of the salt in the walls with special renovation renders. The formulation of such renders must achieve a high volume and a balanced hydrophobicity. Standard products using air-entraining agents to create pores. The disadvantage of

air-entraining agents is their dependency on mixing time and speed. Considerable improvements can be achieved with Poraver® expanded glass in the formulation. Poraver® gives renders a high volume with stable pores that allow salt to crystallize without damaging the render. It also shortens the mixing time and significantly improves workability. In this way Poraver® supports a hassle-free product for excellent results.

www.poraver.com/en

Introducing Supreme Concerto
The new mottled stone-effect surface from Staron

Added to Staron's vast array of premium solid surfaces at the beginning of 2020, Supreme Concerto is guaranteed to enhance any interior. Whether used in residential homes or within the commercial sector, the unique stone-effect surface is designed to make a statement.

Supreme Concerto joins the brand's Supreme Collection, which is comprised of fourteen individual finishes. Inspired by nature, the collection is made up of veined patterns, smooth colours and sporadic wave-like markings in muted tones to offer a versatile surface designed to work in any interior.

Featuring wash-effect shades of brown, ash, white and grey with minute textured flecks, the detailed

surface provides a beautiful stone-like structure. Pair with light coloured kitchen walls and units, or white washbasins in bathrooms for a striking contrast.

Perfect for use within the home as well as in commercial spaces, the award-winning sophisticated blend of natural minerals and thermosetting acrylic polymers ensure non-porous, heat and scratch resistant qualities for the ultimate hygienic surface.

Offering complete design flexibility, Staron is widely used across hotel, office, restaurant and retail sectors due to its exceptional qualities.

Staron is priced from £350 per m2 (based on a fabricated kitchen worktop to a basic specification with upstands)



www.staron.com

SOLAR LIGHTING RE-IMAGINED

By Martin Bennett
(Founder Lumena Lights)

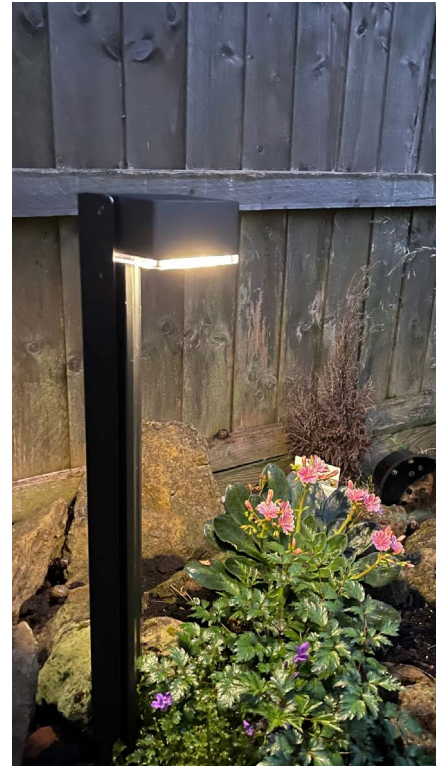
For several years Lumena has specialised in unique Brass, Stainless Steel and Aluminium LED garden lighting. Although we still specialise in this area, along with Bollard Lighting and Photocell (dusk to dawn) Lights, I wanted to push forward with green thinking - Solar Lighting

A while ago, it became my ambition to stock Solar lighting but until 2018 the U.K. weather and the poor quality of the lights available meant it was not an option that suited our high quality standards.

With the advent of improved technology incorporating more efficient Solar Panels, ever brighter LEDs and high capacity, long life Lithium Ion batteries I decided to seriously explore the lights being made. We worked closely with the manufacturers to produce lights suited to the British climate by calibrating the electronic controls. By mid 2019 we stocked a range of unique Solar Lighting that will light for hours every night of the year – the Pro-Solar Range. By way of Solar Bollards, wall lights and floodlights, the Pro-Solar Range has proven very popular in all areas – in gardens, commercial premises, public areas – even piers. We continue to expand the range with our most recent additions being the Endura Path Light which will illuminate for up to 10 nights when fully charged! This is our longest lasting solar light which is due to launch this Summer!

Since the end of 2020 we have been developing an even brighter Solar Street Light Range – ViaMAX. Launching within the next month, these larger scale designs are exclusive to Lumena, suited to commercial premises.

Solar lights have “green” credentials are easy to DIY install, many with no light pollution such as the contemporary Endura (pictured) or the Pathmaster (overleaf). Some designs have integrated solar panels, whilst



With the advent of improved technology incorporating more efficient Solar Panels, ever brighter LEDs and high capacity, long life Lithium Ion batteries I decided to seriously explore the lights being made.

others can be placed in shady areas with the panel placed elsewhere. We are currently developing a brand new Solar Garden Lighting System to power multiple 12v lights at the same time from a single solar panel – watch this space!

A 5 year guarantee is offered with most models, including our ViaMAX street lighting range, although the expected lifetime is in excess of 8 years.

■ www.lumenalights.com



Martin Bennett

SPECIALISTS IN HIGH OUTPUT SOLAR LIGHTING



PATHMASTER

Benefits of Solar Lighting

- ✓ Long Lasting
- ✓ Environmentally Friendly
- ✓ Easy to Install
- ✓ Free to Run



HIWAY



OLYMPIA



GO GREEN WITH SOLAR



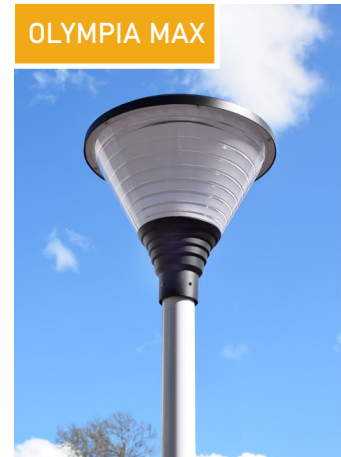
COMMERCIAL SOLAR STREET LIGHTS



STREETMASTER



HIWAY MAX



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- ✓ 365/yr Illumination
- ✓ Heavy Duty Materials



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THE RISING TREND OF LIFTS IN HOMES

People are moving house less often. In the last two decades, people on average moved every 20 years, in the 90s it was every nine years. This change now means people are buying and building homes to live in for many years to come.

People looking for their forever home want to ensure the house is future-proofed to cover every stage of life. The rise of future-proofing and the trend for building high specification luxury homes sees developers and owners alike, including the convenience of a lift.

Luxurious design statement

A lift is an ultimate statement, a lifestyle choice and practical feature. It not only boosts the price of a home but also makes it more attractive, creating a one-of-a-kind focal point.

Home-owners future-proofing for years to come

Lifts provide a fantastic practical purpose, for many, continuing to live in the same house as they age is important, as is the ease of moving



groceries between floors. A lift can allow them to do just that. Plus, a lift costs less than moving house!

A resurgence of the dumbwaiter

Not just people-moving lifts that play their role. As the trend grows for new townhouses with several floors, service lifts (or dumbwaiters) are regaining popularity due to their smallness and installation ease.

The different types of home lifts

Properties come in all shapes and sizes - and so do lifts. In a new dwelling, a lift can be part of an Architect's plans. In an existing home, there is a need to place the lift around the current house layout. The choices are endless and broadly fall into these categories:

- Lifts - up to five people travel between floors with a choice of door options, finishes and configurations.
- Through-floor lifts - up to two people travel between the ground and first floor, best suited to smaller spaces.
- Service lifts/Dumbwaiters - transporting food, groceries and goods between floors, ideal for properties with three or more floors, or where the kitchen, garage and/or dining area are on different levels.

What to consider when choosing a lift

Narrow your search and choose whether; it will take people or goods;

how many floors of travel and space you have. Along with a few further considerations:

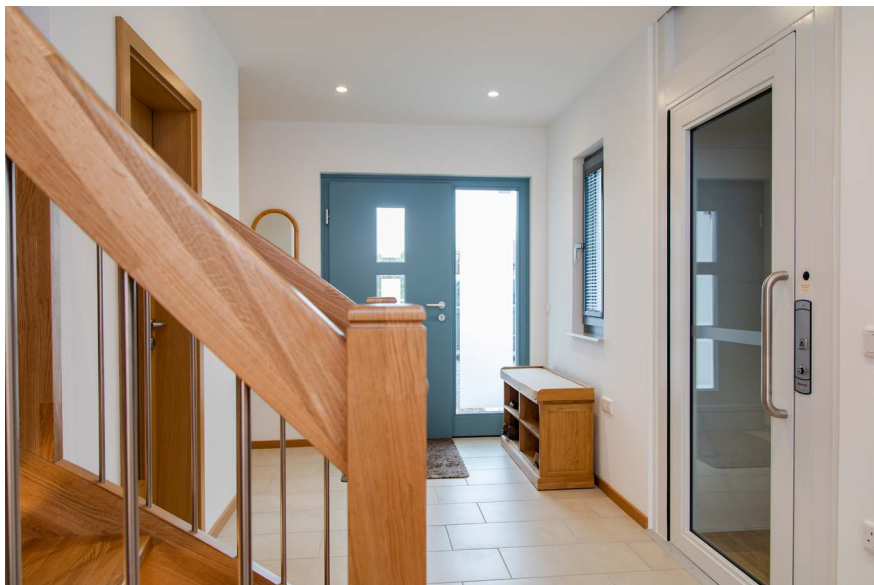
- Cost – put aside £15-£25k in your budget for the supply and install cost of a lift to move people or £6-7k for a dumbwaiter.
- Professional input - if the lift is designed into your project from the start then you will limit major issues. For an existing home, get a lift survey, and for a new development, speak to the lift company to decide the perfect product. They can assist in making sure you've covered all of the technical requirements.
- Location - it's always a good idea to locate a lift for people next to the stairs and in a central location. That way it will be easily accessible from every part of the home.
- Size - it might seem attractive to fit in a smaller lift, but go for the largest you can. Ideally create a space that is big enough for a wheelchair and another person. That way, you will also be able to use the lift to transport furniture and other larger items between floors.
- Style - choosing the style of the lift, from glass shafts, custom walls, door options, to bespoke flooring – a lift can be a sleek and stylish addition as well as a life-long practical choice.
- Installation - lift installations will likely require building work, varying on the type of lift. It is advisable to consult with a specialist early on in your project.

Even if you decide a lift isn't an option for now, a home can be futureproofed by ensuring you design a space where it can be installed at a later date.

Whatever your requirement, Stannah can supply all these product types. To enable an easy decision, we guide you through the complete process. With your perfect lift chosen, installation is a few days, then it is ready for use - with the reassurance of local service, nationwide.

The possibilities of home lifts are endless, taking homeowners, family and guests, or goods, around a home.

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Your expertise creates inspirational environments. Our expertise makes them accessible.

With the rising trend of lifts in homes, our lifts complement your visionary buildings. Unlike a conventional lift, our home lifts do not require any space for a pit or its machinery and also provide added value to a home – both financially and aesthetically. Lifts can be placed almost anywhere in the home and we provide project and ongoing product support to help you deliver excellence.

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Stannah

Working at height solutions

At Ladderstore we specialise in working at height solutions and ensuring that any work carried out at height is done in a safe manner. With over 15 years experience and every member of our team being Ladder Association Accredited, you can have complete confidence in our advice and recommendations.

If you are working on projects requiring standard step and extension ladders or mobile towers, we have a full range of certified products available from a variety of well established manufacturers.

Our most unique offering is our ability to work on larger scale projects and assist with the design and manufacture of bespoke solutions. If you cannot find a standard solution to work, don't



hesitate to get in touch with us. Our offering includes bridging and conveyor steps, vehicle access systems, roof and gantry ladders and much more. If you need any product to work at height safely we'll be able to help.

We are also ISO:9001 accredited and hold Investors In People Accreditations.

We also have a range of bespoke rolling library ladders too, mixing practicality and design. Perfect for kitchens, bookshelves and even mezzanine access, our rolling ladders are available in a range of materials and finishes.

For more information please get in touch with our expert team on 01204 590 232 or email bespoke@ladderstore.com.








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-  **BESPOKE** Made to order products to suit your requirements.
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-  **SAFETY** All our products are certified to the relevant standards.
-  **INDUSTRIAL** A range of solutions available for industrial projects.
-  **DESIGN** We'll design & manufacture the perfect solution.



- Bespoke Roof Access Systems - Bridging Steps & Platforms - Vehicle Access & Tanker Ladders - Bespoke Rolling Library Ladders -

The Platform Lift Company

Managing Director Sean O'Sullivan of The Platform Lift Company highlights some of their bestselling residential platform lifts ...

Overcoming architectural barriers such as steps or a difference in floor levels within a home has become even easier with our wide range of platform lift solutions.

A stylish vertical home platform lift

If you require a vertical platform lift with glazing on all four sides or partially glazed, then look no further. The Motala 2000 Home platform lift fits seamlessly within a room, hallway or landing. Its clever and elegant design meets everything you need from a home lift as it is quiet, easy to operate and has a small footprint. What's more, the Motala 2000 Home is energy efficient and requires minimal maintenance.

Architecturally designed low rise platform lift

EasyLift features clean lines and comes in a variety of materials and finishes to complement even the most luxurious interiors. This open style platform lift can reach levels of up to 1.25m. It is a simple yet incredibly chic wheelchair lift which is why it is one of our best sellers for both internal and external environments.

Space-saving solution

FlexStep is a clever 2-in-1 product which can be configured as a flight of stairs and transformed at the touch of a button into a platform lift.

The FlexStep is available in different widths to accommodate tight spaces and step heights. It is easy to install and will blend in beautifully with an existing décor or floor material.



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Chela LTD adds DeepStrip to their façade care range

Chela LTD, an industrial chemical manufacturer, are pleased to add DeepStrip to their wide range of façade care products.

DeepStrip is a low hazard paint stripper based on benzyl alcohol and water that will efficiently remove many layers of paint from brick, masonry and metal.

DeepStrip will cling to vertical and overhead surfaces and is effective on most paints and power coatings. The softened coating can be removed using high pressure

water or by brushing whilst rinsing with low pressure water as the product rinses well.

For more information on DeepStrip or our other façade care products including brick cleaners and protective coatings, please visit our website or contact a member of the sales team.

Tel: +44(0)20 8805 2150
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Metsä Wood: Wooden roof of Macallan Distillery resonates authenticity and honesty

The Macallan Distillery and Visitor Experience in Craigellachie, Speyside in Scotland is a stunning sight. Five meadow-covered hills hide the undulating roof of the distillery. The contemporary building combines a wooden roof with glass and steel. Fast, light and green Kerto LVL (laminated veneer lumber) was used as part of the prefabricated roof.

The building includes a Visitor Experience centre, three still houses and a mash house with a common roof and fully glazed

wall. This reflects the wishes of the Macallan Distillery, a premium brand, whose single malt whisky production dates back to 1824. The goal was a contemporary facility celebrating phasing, authenticity and honesty.

“Kerto LVL is a very good engineered wood material, because you can trust the material dimensions,” says Johannes Rebhahn, Sales Director International Timber Projects at Wiehag, who was responsible for the roof construction.

www.metsawood.com




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Once in a while a product comes along and changes everything, from the way it's crafted to the way it works. Products are often copied and many are great ideas that never really see true success in their application. Many years are spent searching for a product that will ultimately surpass expectations, stand the test of time and become recognised as the leader in its field.

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